School of Theology at Claremont
10011437491

CUNEIFORM TEXTS

FROM

BABYLONIAN TABLETS, &c.,

IN THE

BRITISH MUSEUM.

PART XXXVII.

(50 Plates.)

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

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PART XXXVII. of "Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets" contains copies of texts from a group of thirty objects consisting of large clay foundation cones, a barrel-cylinder, and a number of baked clay tablets. The greater number of these documents are here published for the first time.

The principal historical texts are:—1. An inscription of Samsu-iluna relating to the building of the temple E-barra at Sippar. 2. A long and detailed account of the restoration of Babylonian temples which were carried out by Nebuchadnezzar II. The text most closely resembles that of the East India House Inscription, but provides several new passages and important variants.

The bilingual texts which deal with the terms applicable to men and plants are of great linguistic interest. Among them is one which settles the vexed question of what the name of the Sumerian dialect EME.SAL means. The man who speaks this dialect is termed *dib-ru-u* (Plate 24, col. II, l. 13), "the countryman"; compare the Syriac ܕܒܪܘܐ. This native explanation of the name of the dialect settles the meaning of EME.SAL as "broad" or "countrified" speech. Equally important is the text dealing with cereals (Plate 29, col. 1, ll. 35–50), from which it is clear that ŠE.BAR and ŠE.GIG do not mean "barley" and "wheat," but the "grain" and "straw" of wheat.

Plates 35–50 contain a mass of partly published material which will serve for the reconstitution of the great Babylonian witch-doctor's treatise, entitled, "When an incantation priest goes to a sick man's house." This work is based upon a large series of careful and accurate observations of the physical symptoms of sick people, and of various accidental happenings. From these observations the witch-doctor drew inferences as to the probabilities about the recovery or death of the patient, and the nature and course of the disease. There is little doubt that this system of doctoring was in common use in Mesopotamia until the Middle Ages, and that much of the medical system of the Syrians was based upon it.

The copies printed herein have been made by Mr. Sidney Smith, M.A., Assistant in the Department.

E. A. WALLIS BUDGE.

DEPARTMENT OF EGYPTIAN AND ASSYRIAN ANTIQUITIES,
BRITISH MUSEUM, *November* 20, 1923.

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PLATES.

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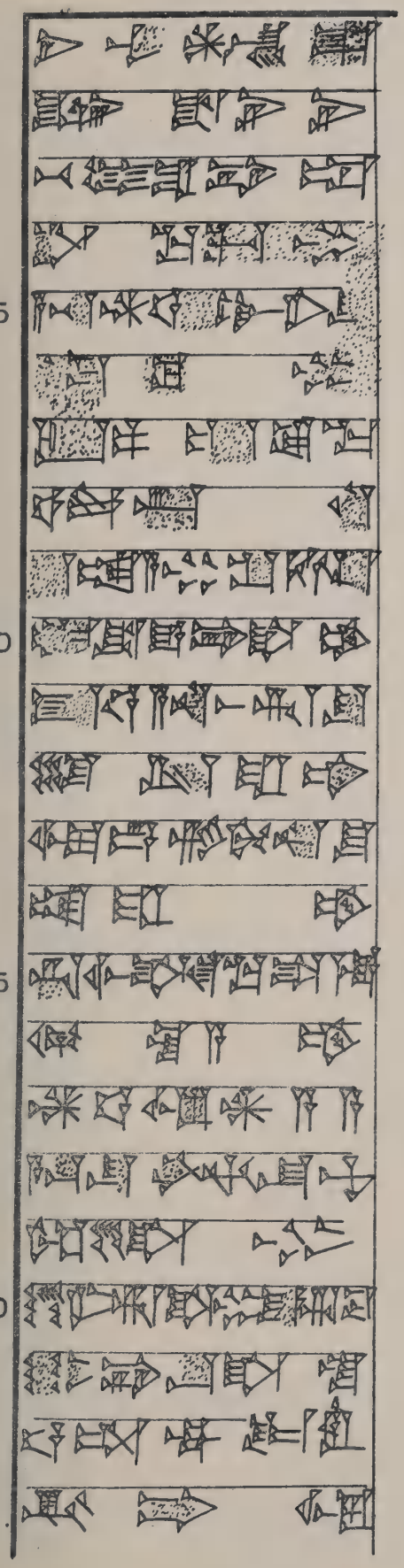

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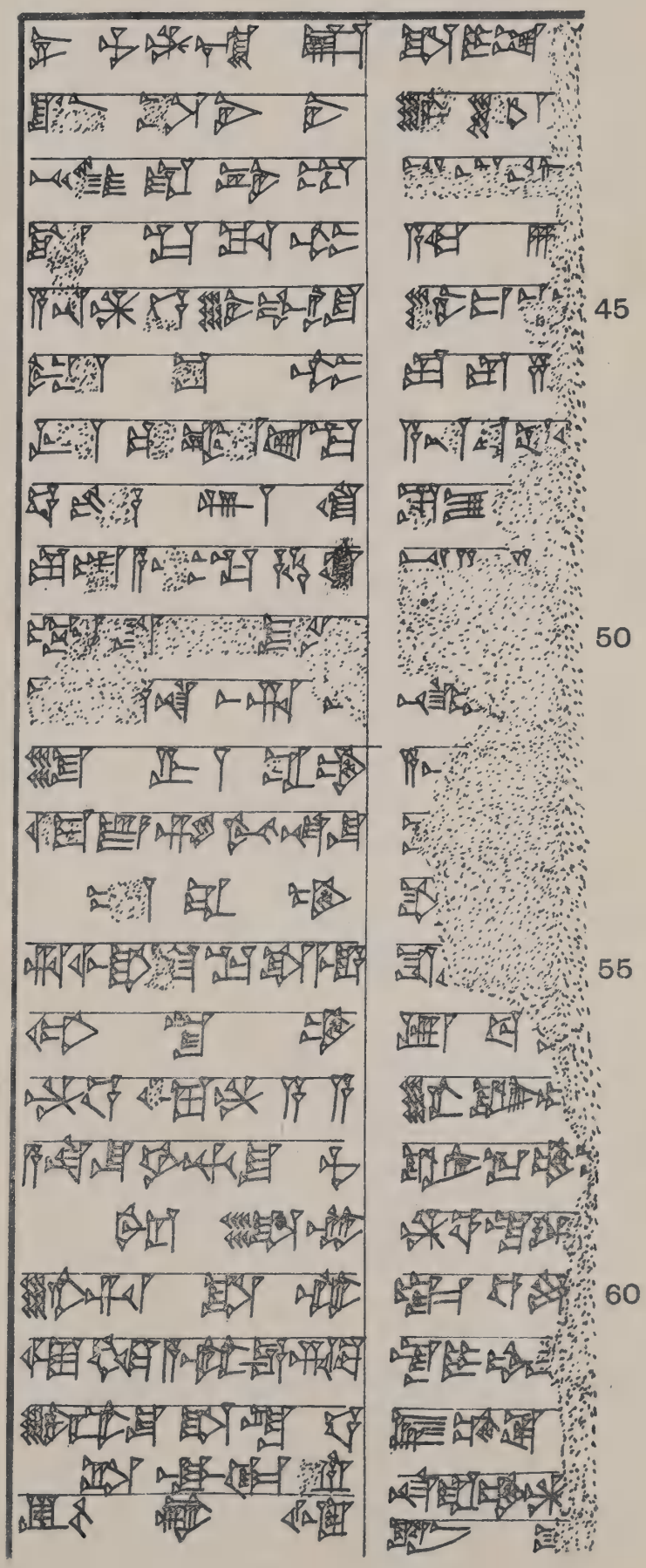

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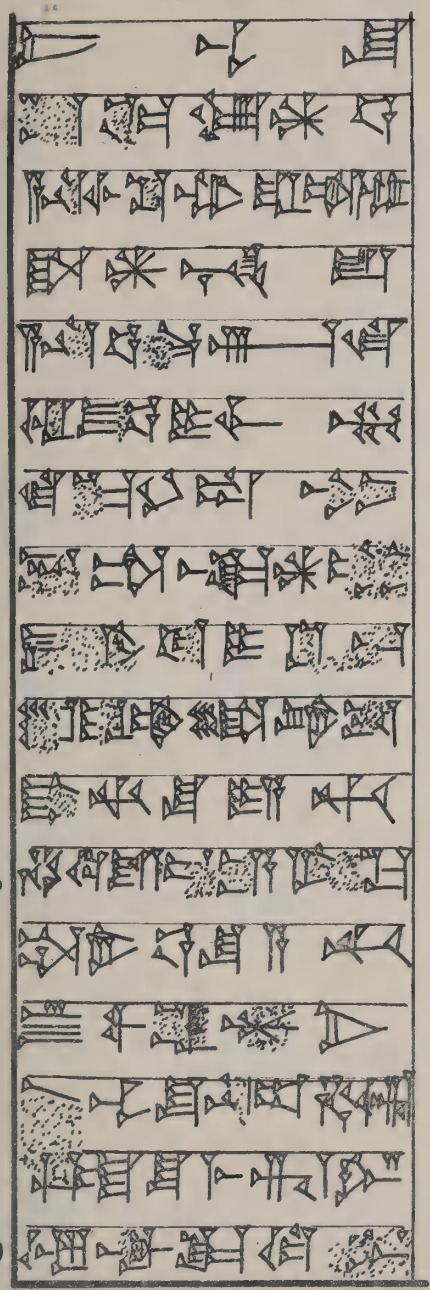

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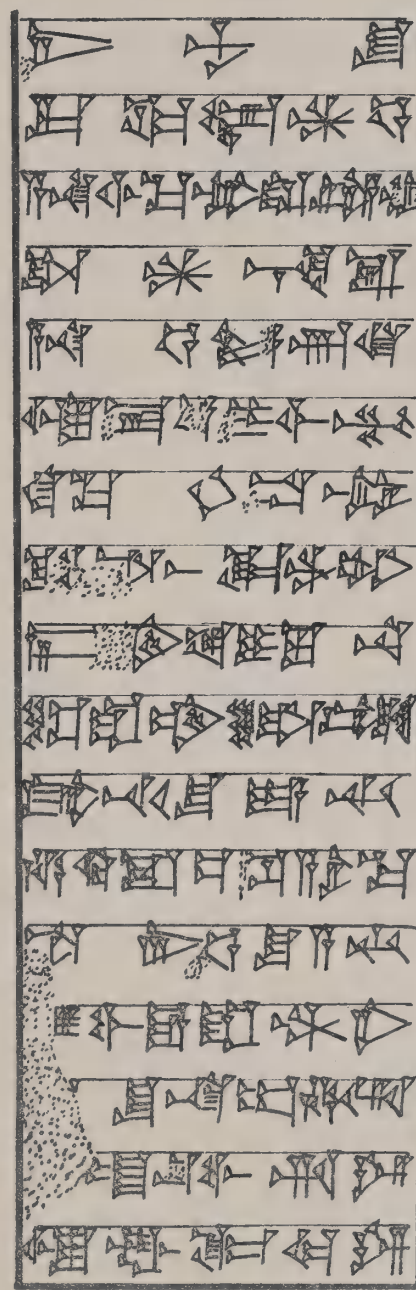

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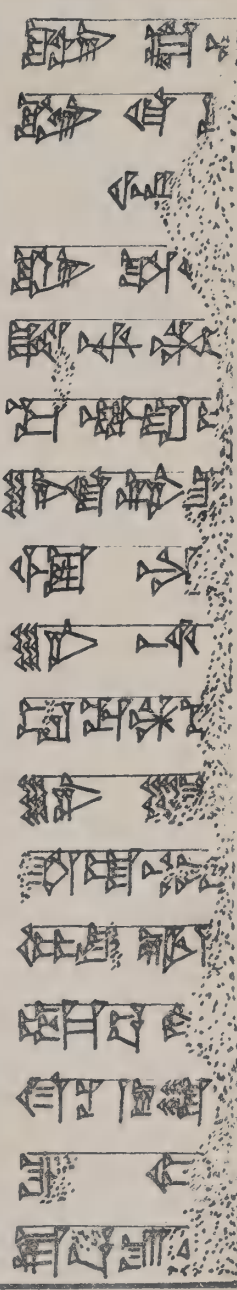

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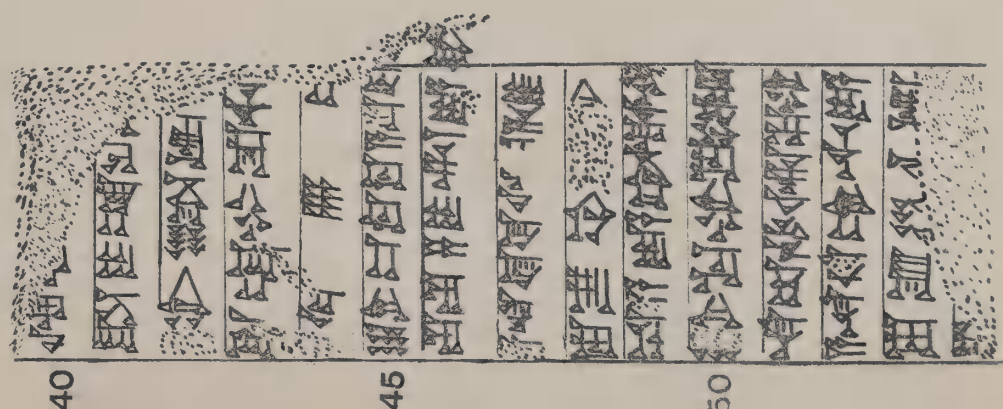

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COL II.

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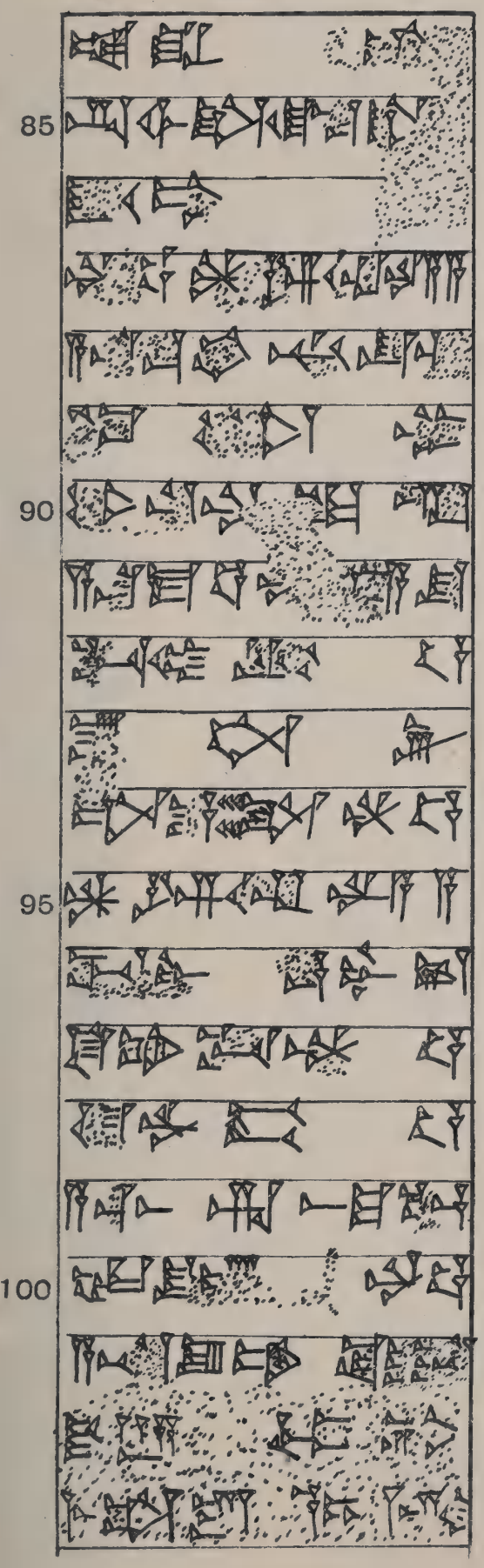

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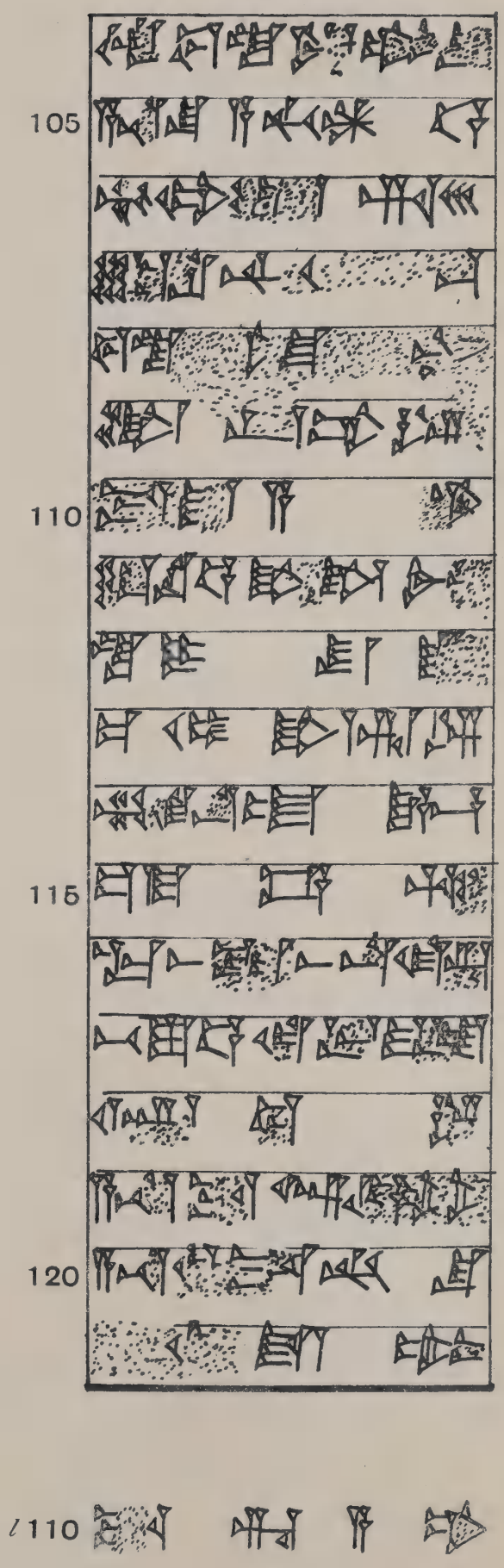

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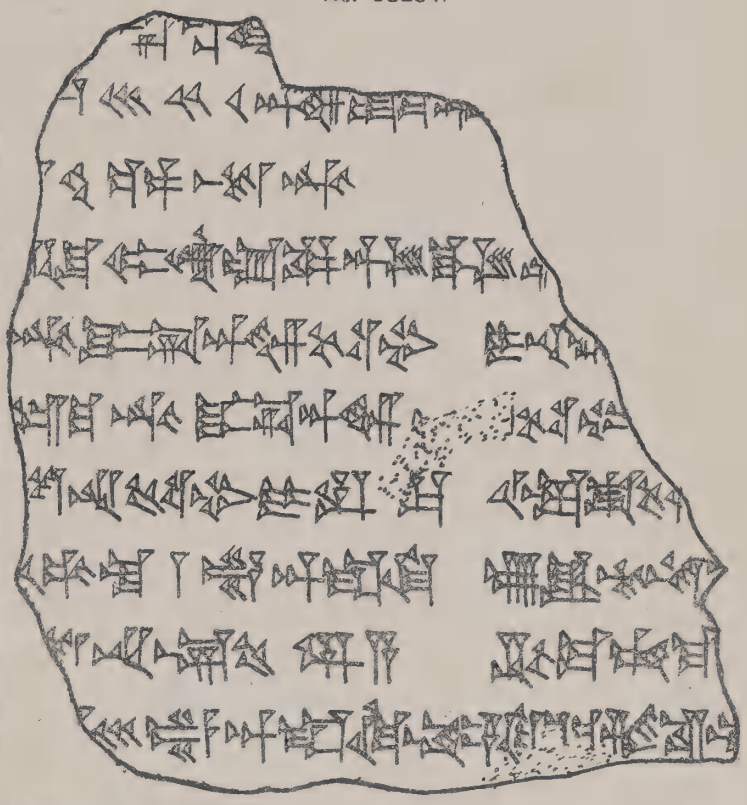

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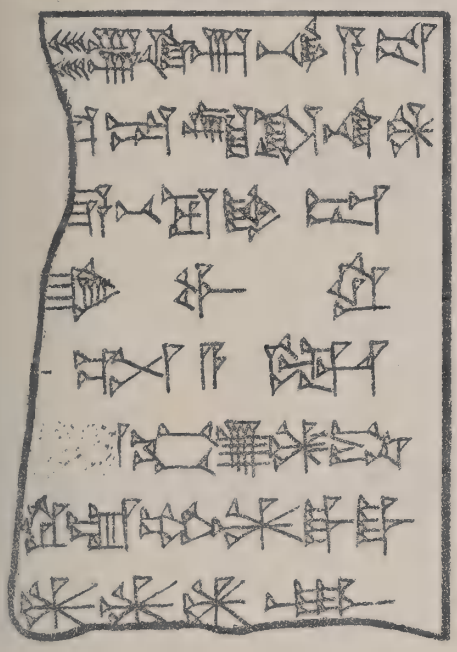

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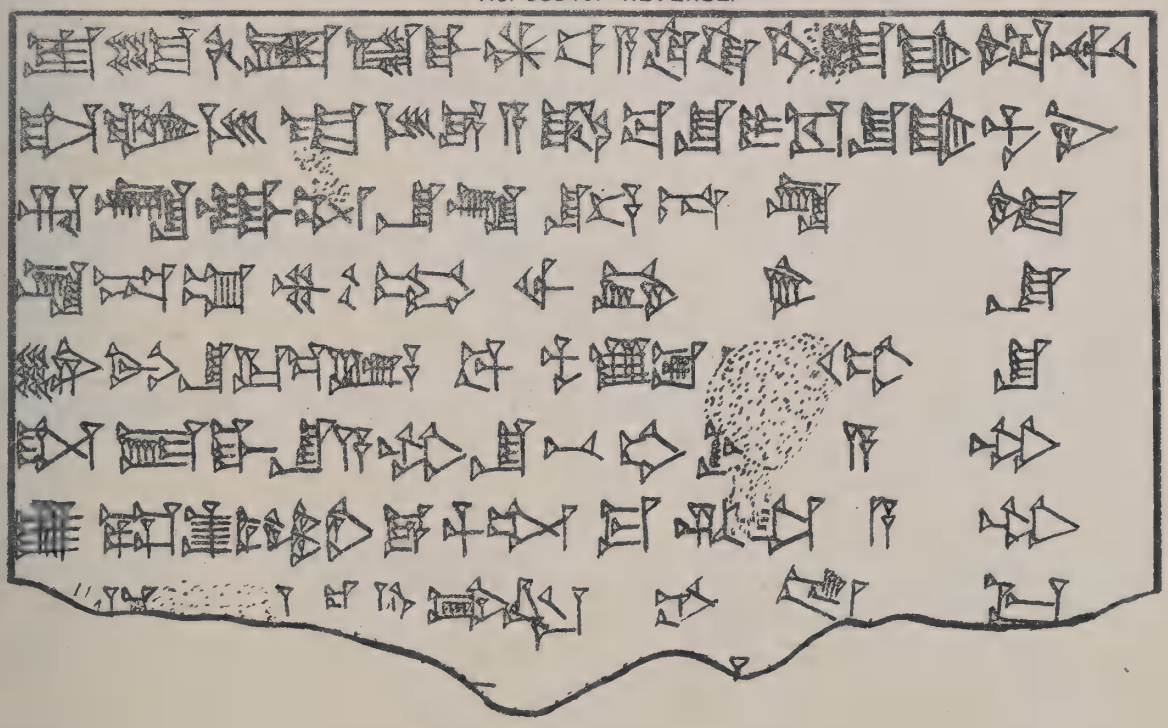

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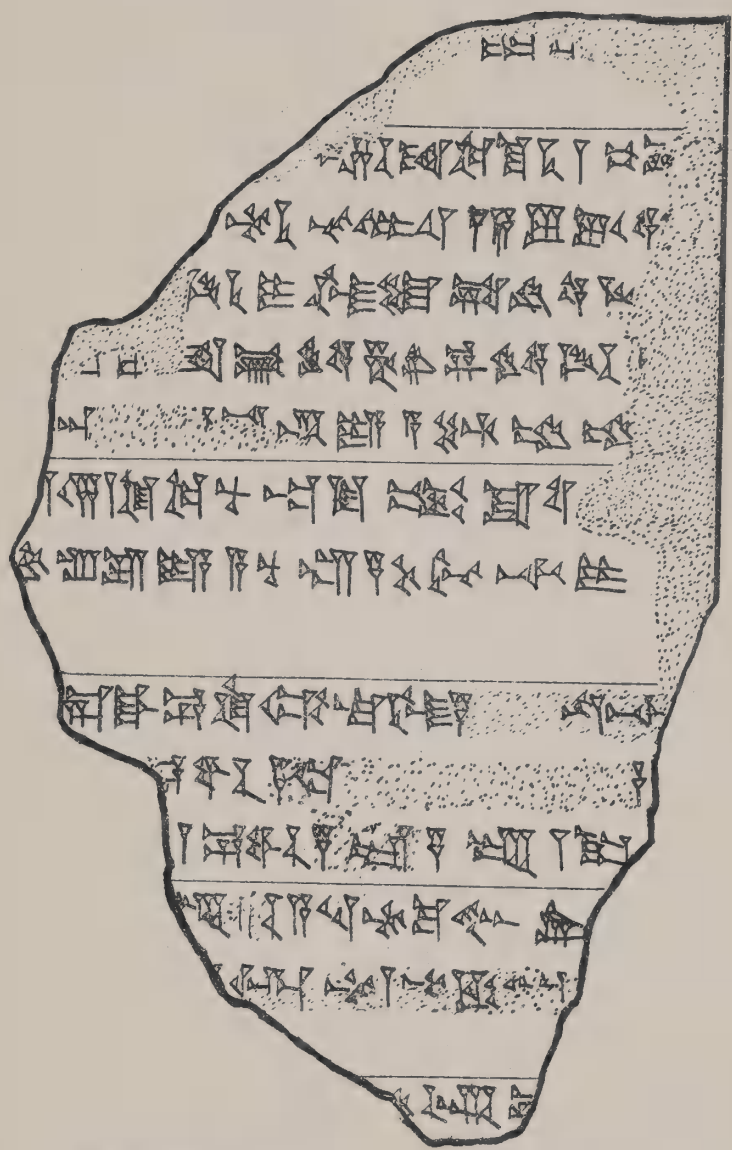

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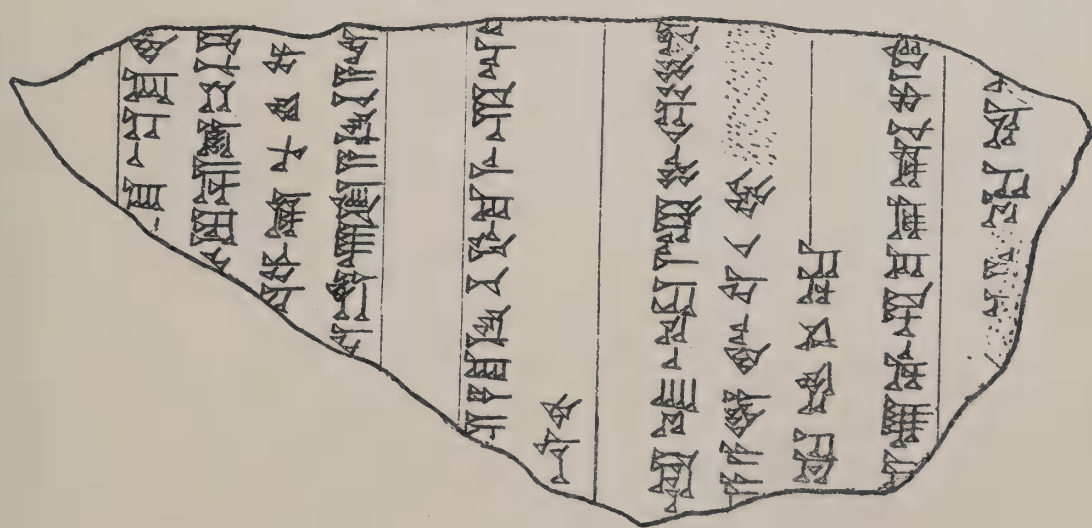

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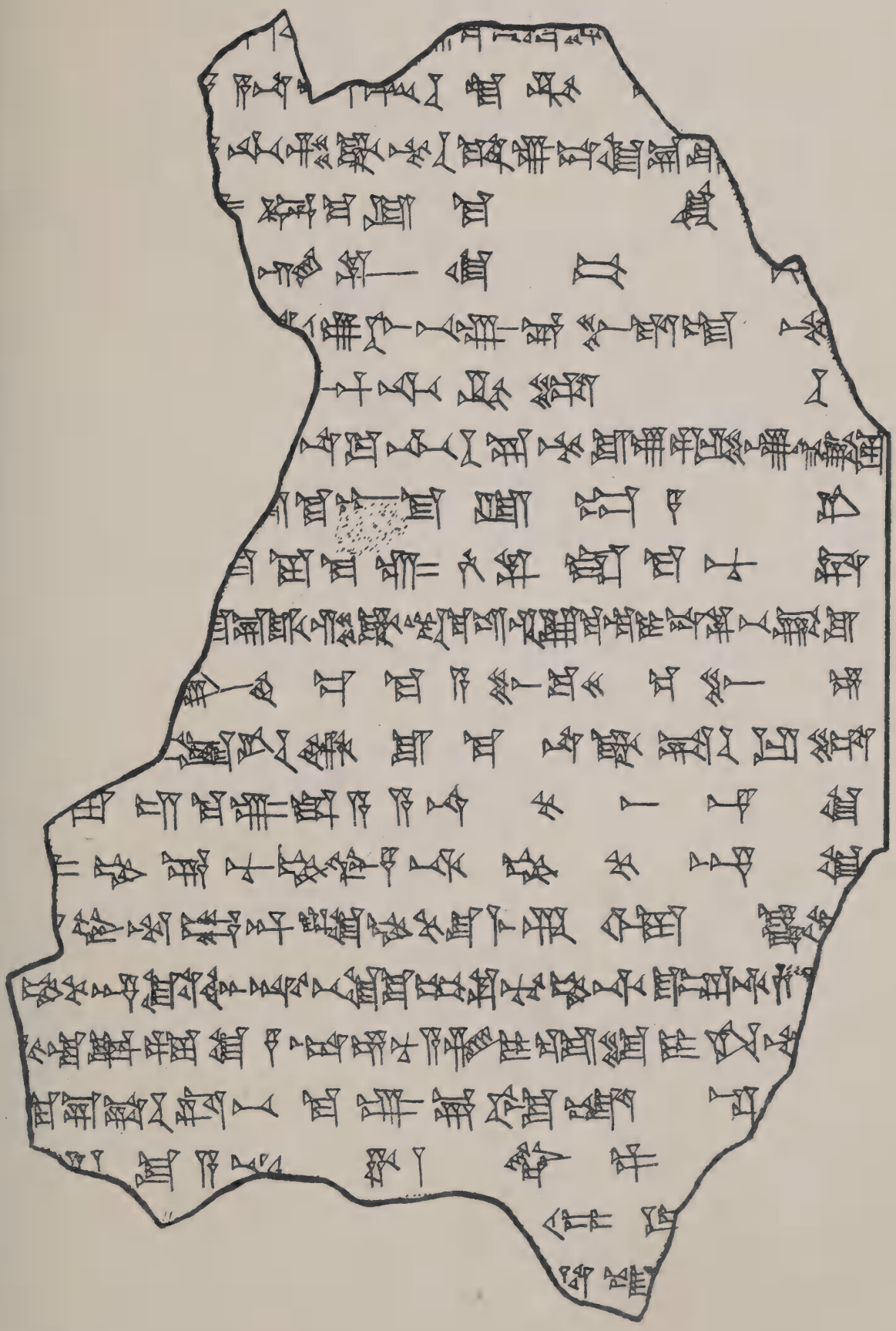

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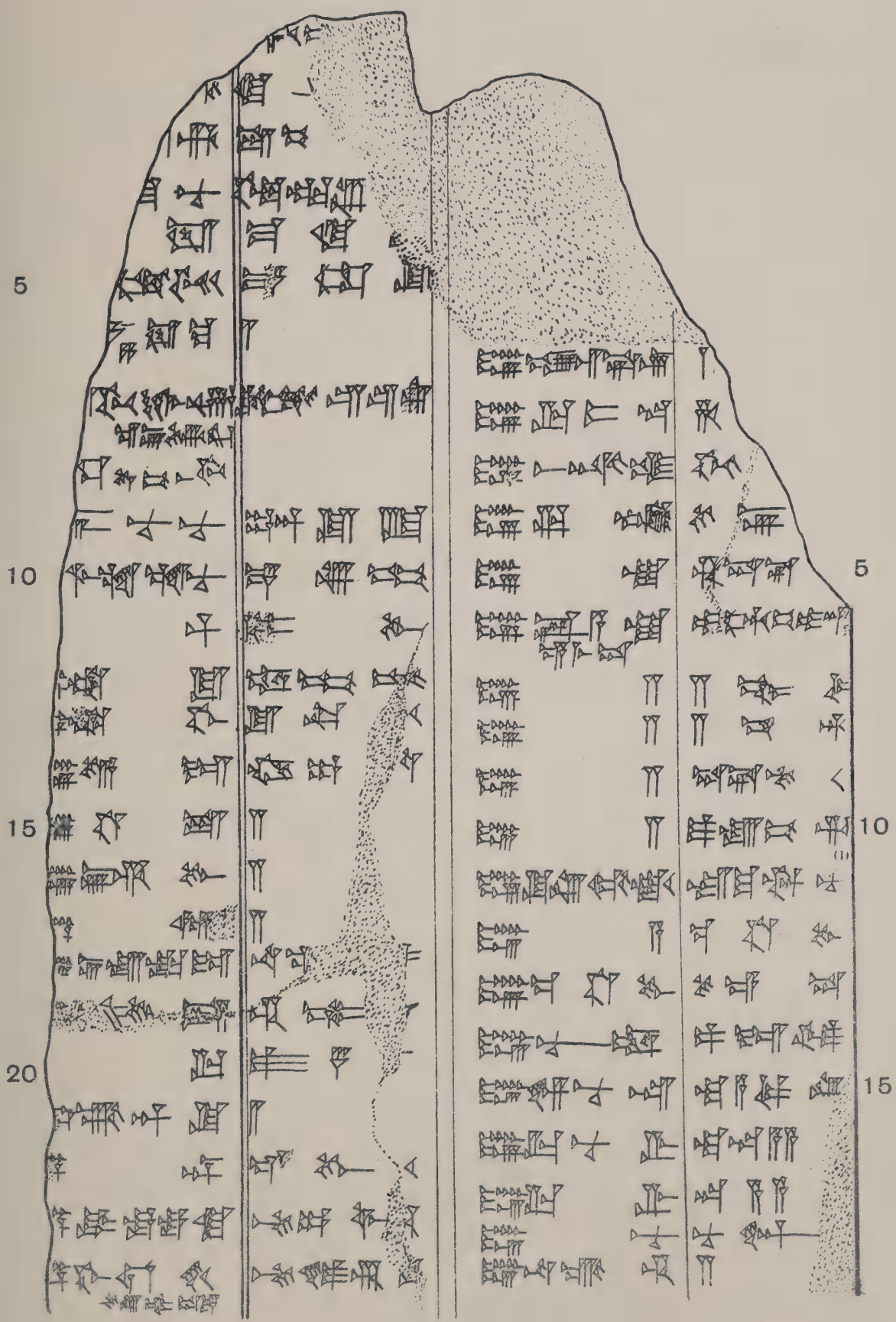

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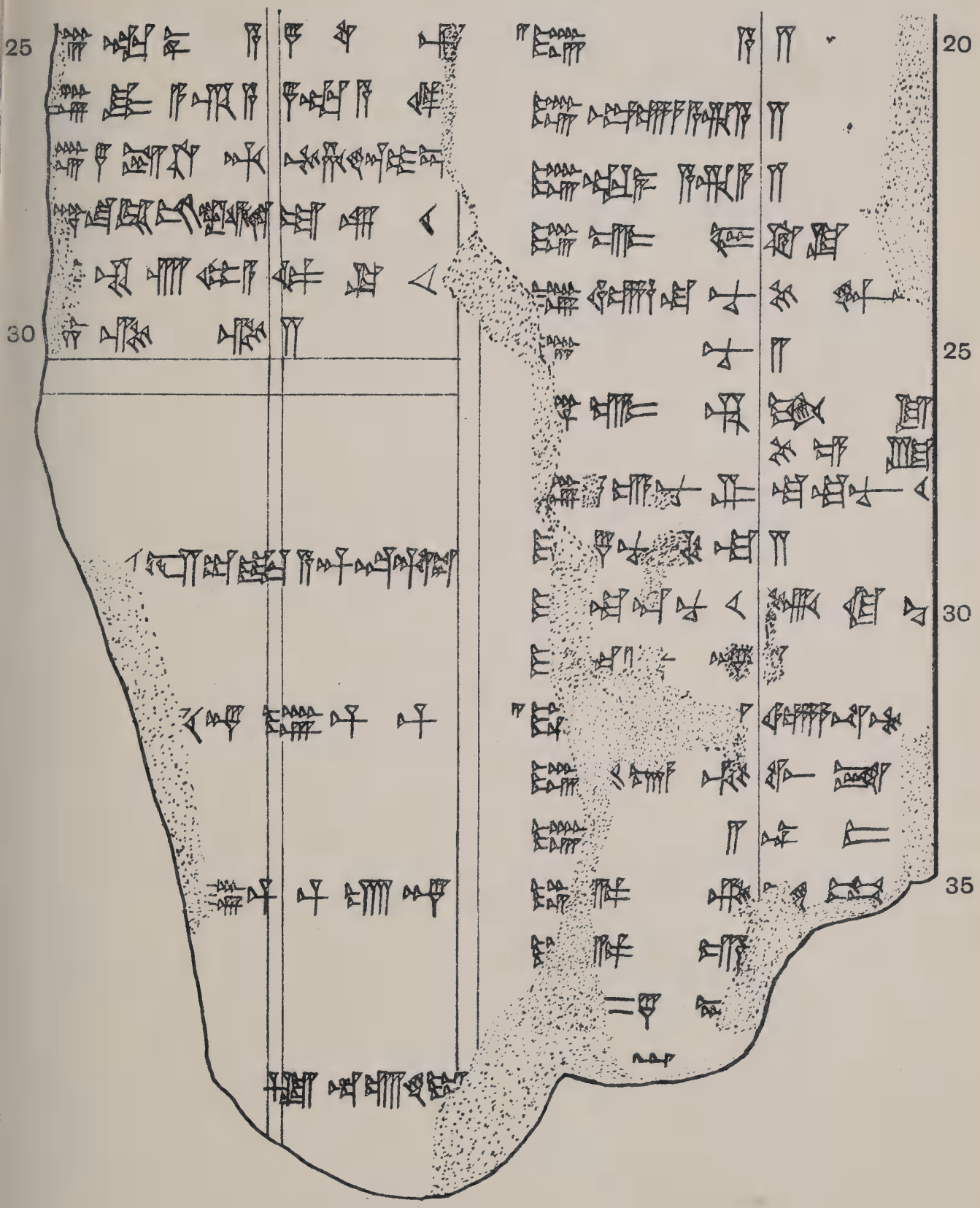

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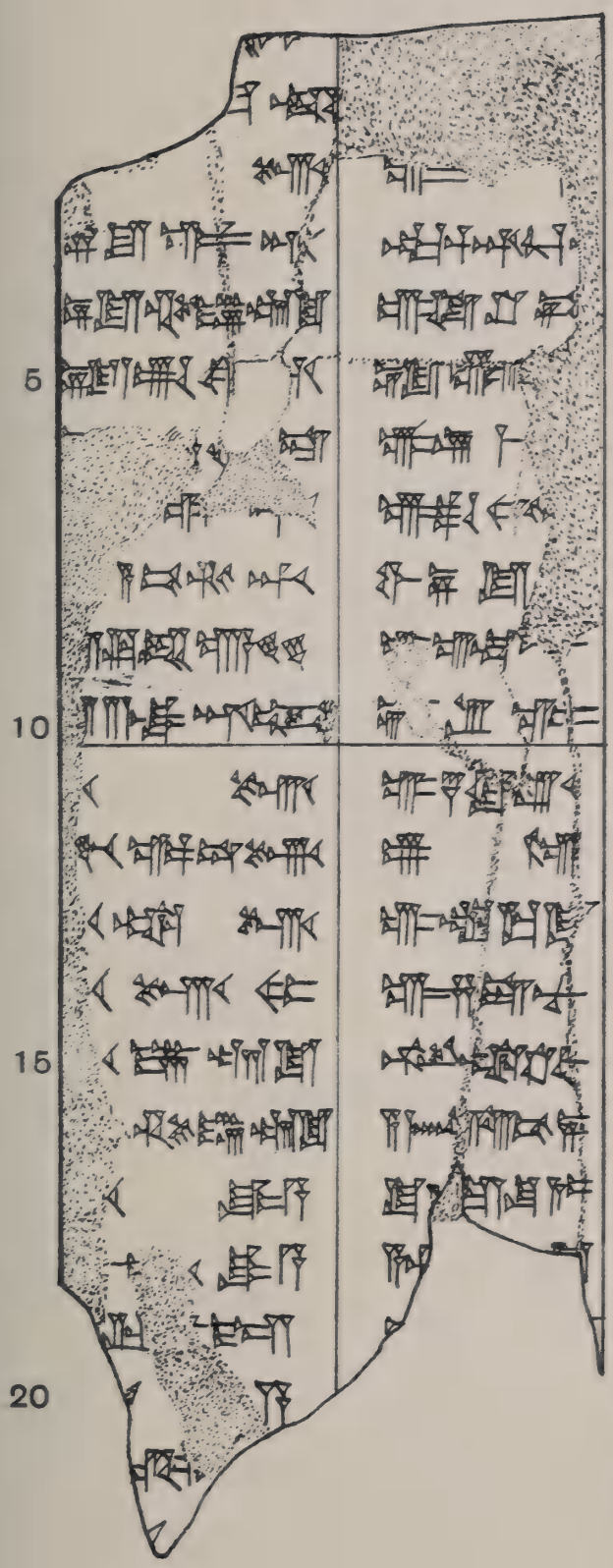

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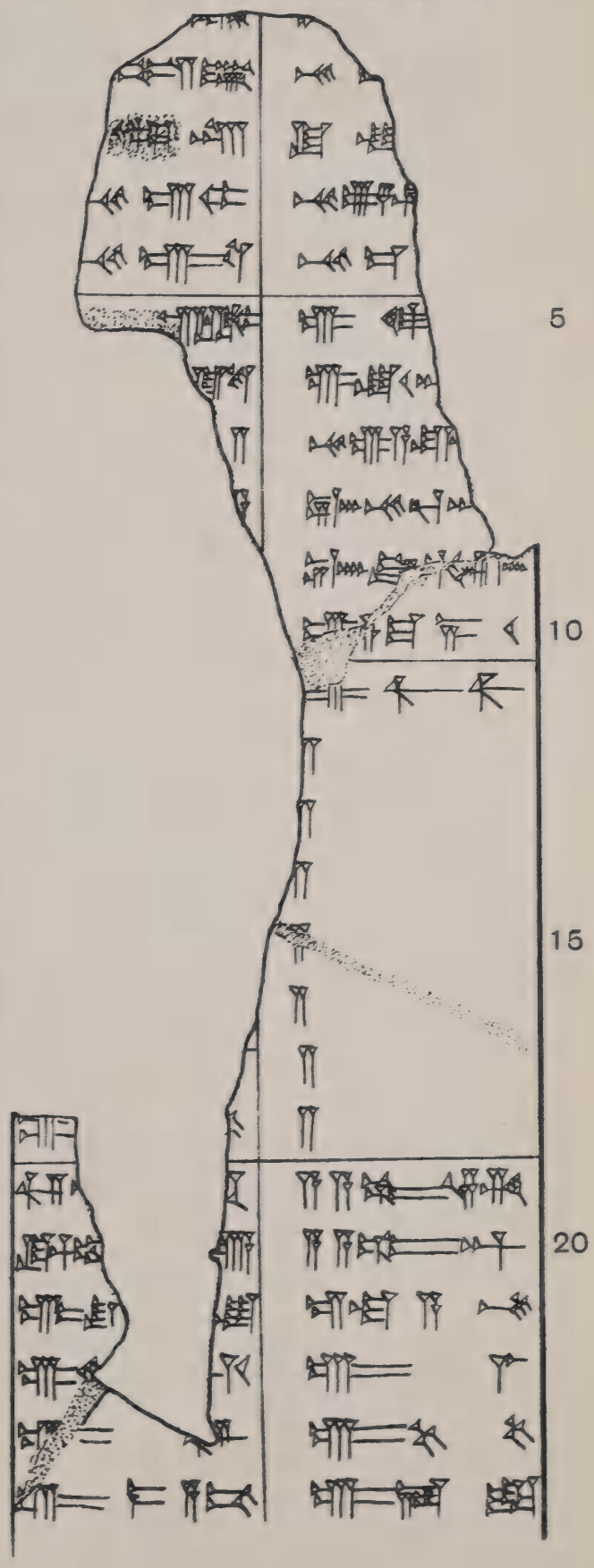

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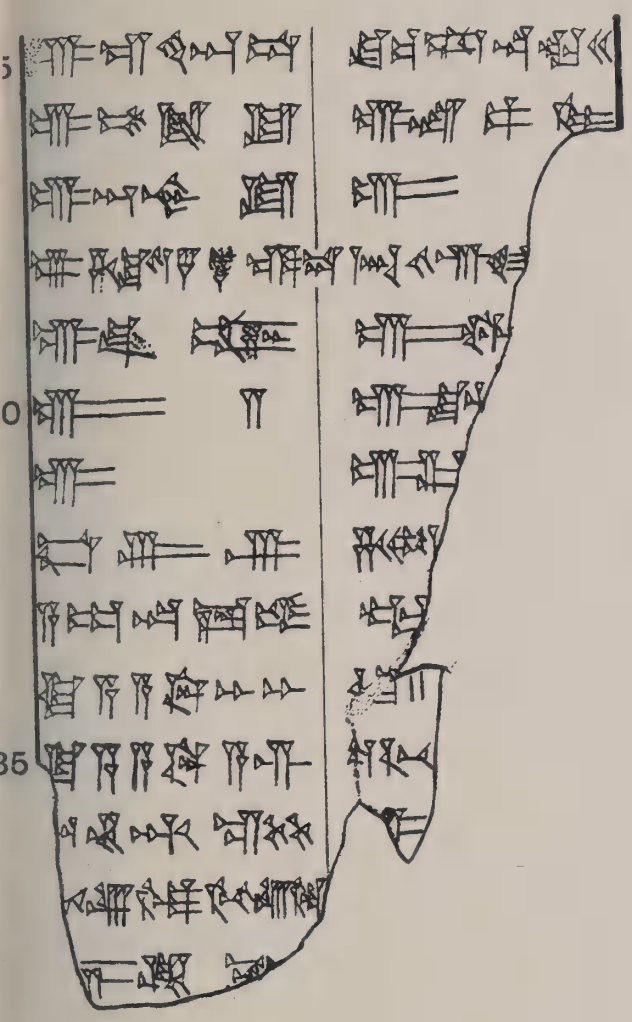

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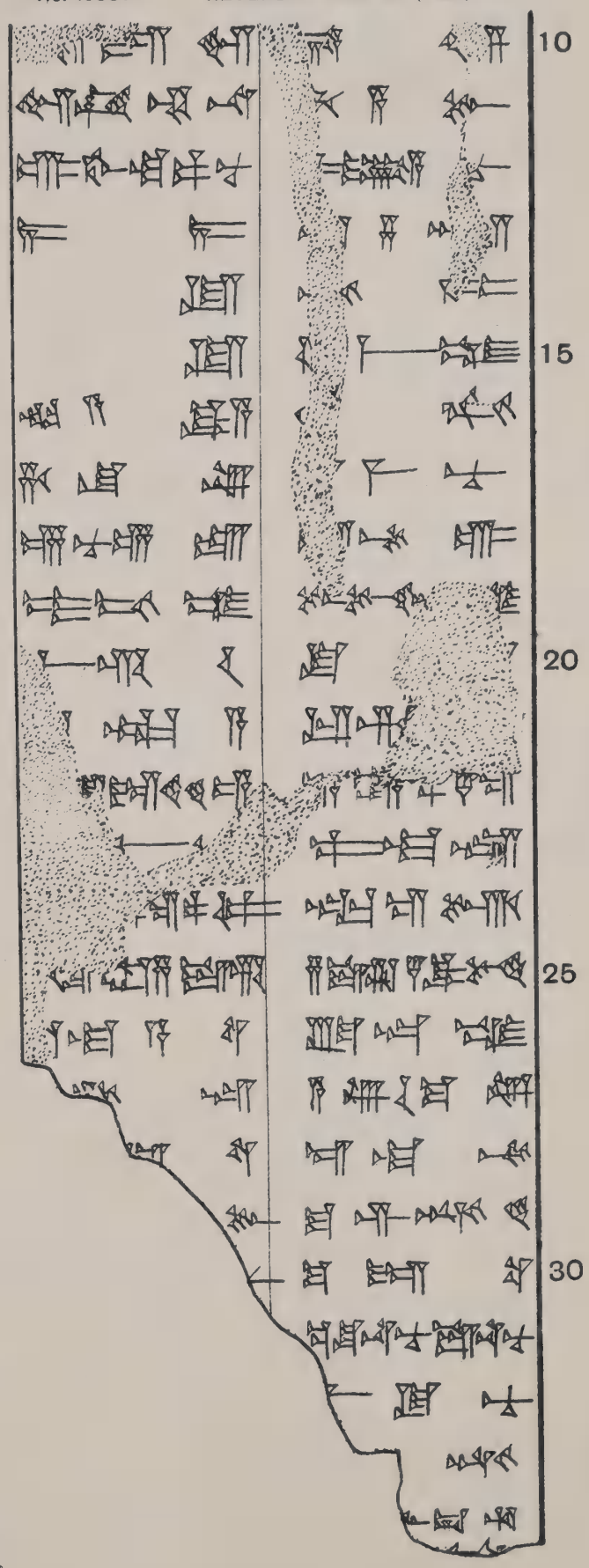

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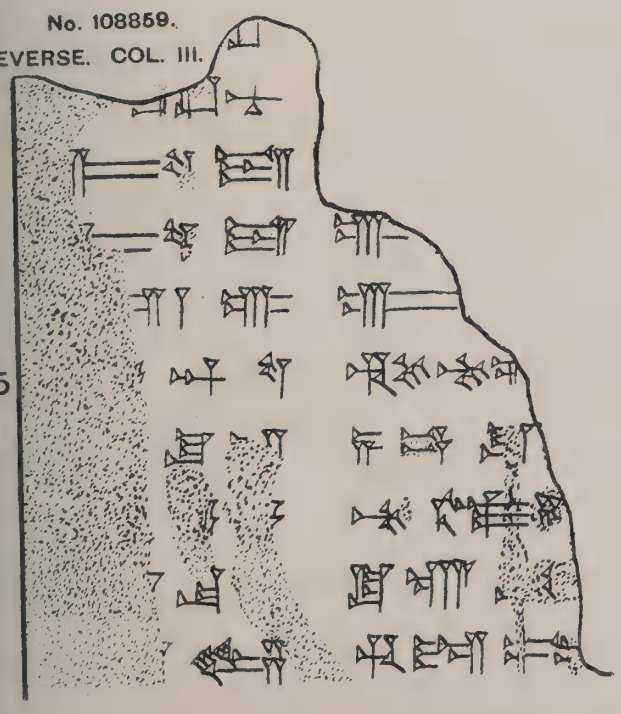

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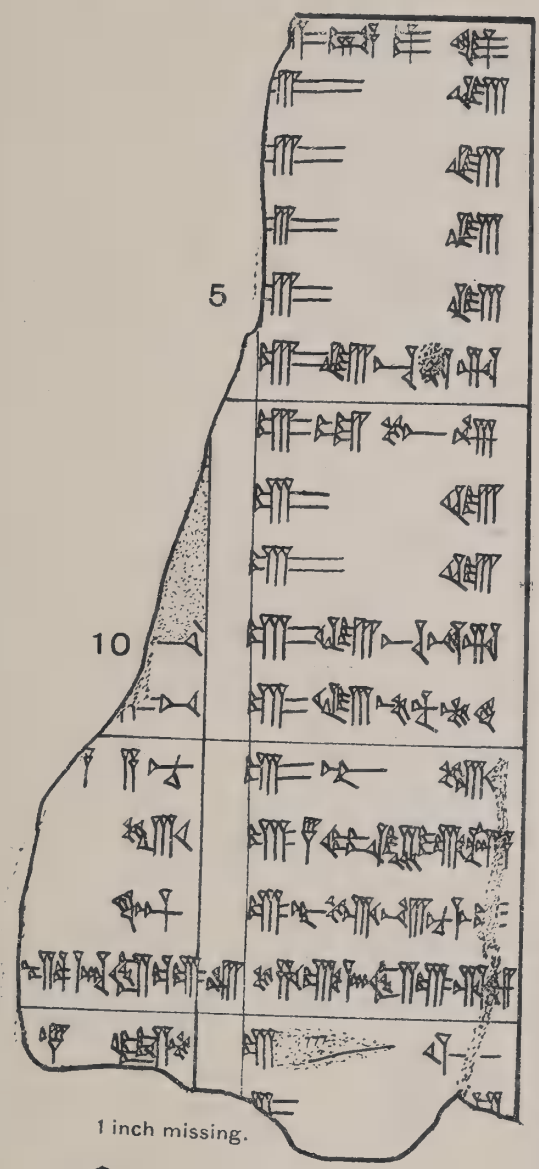

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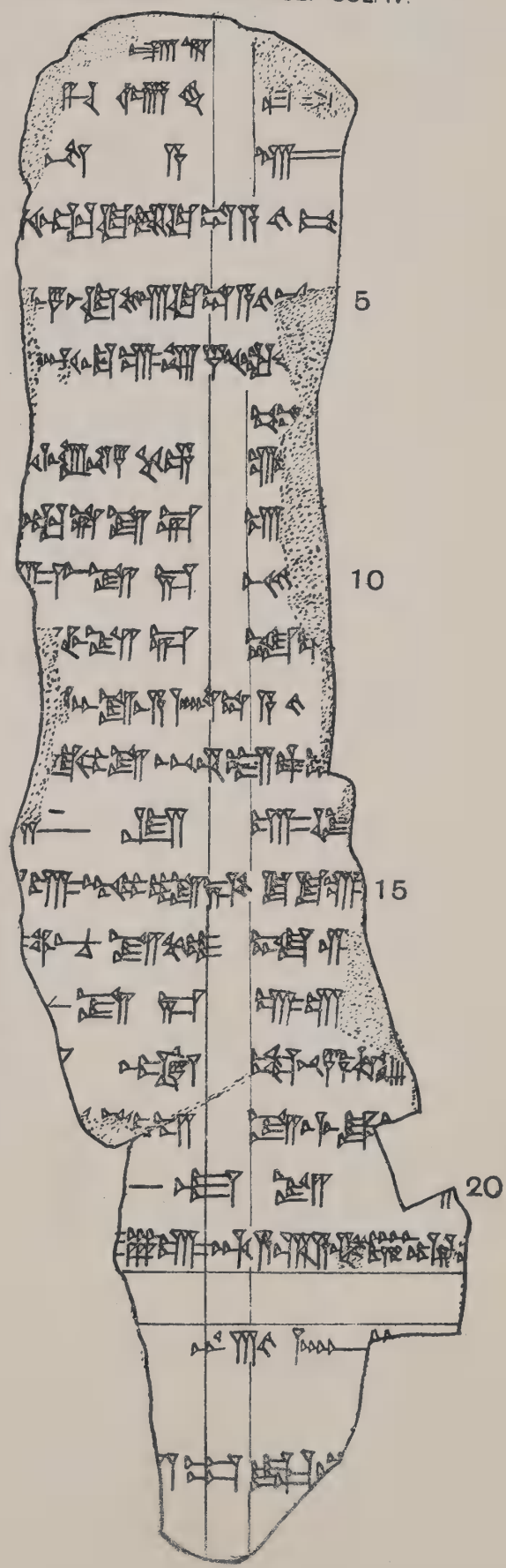

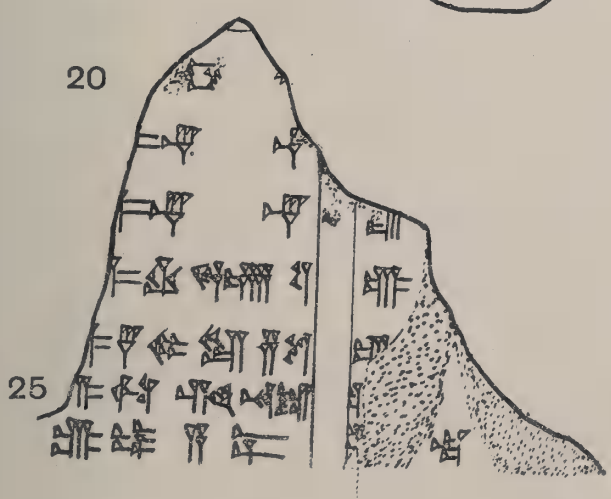

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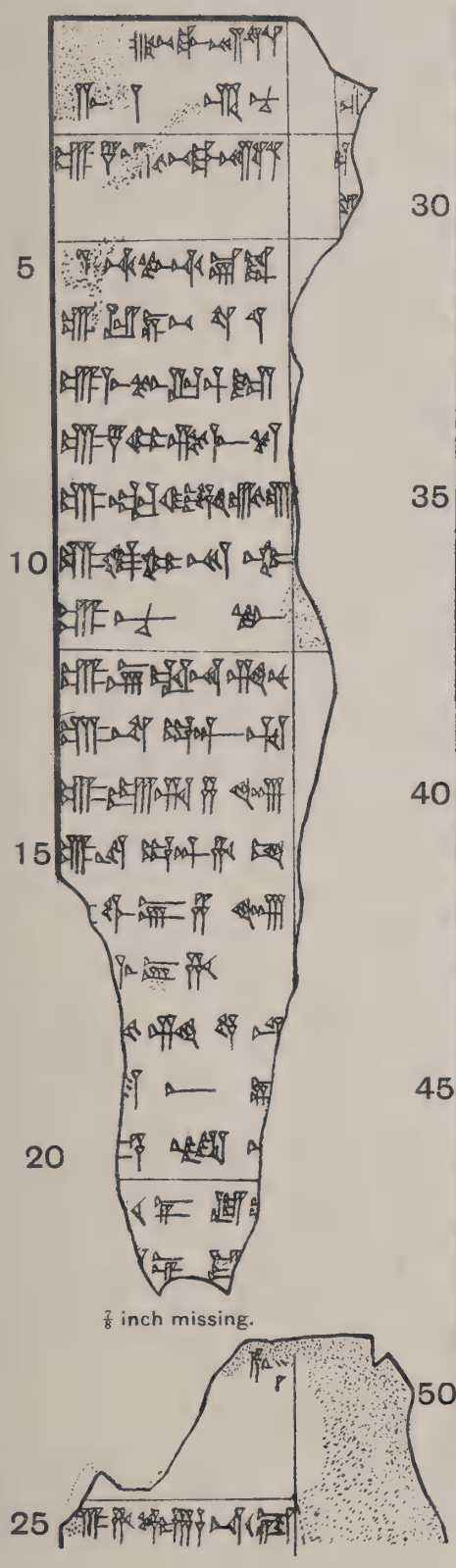

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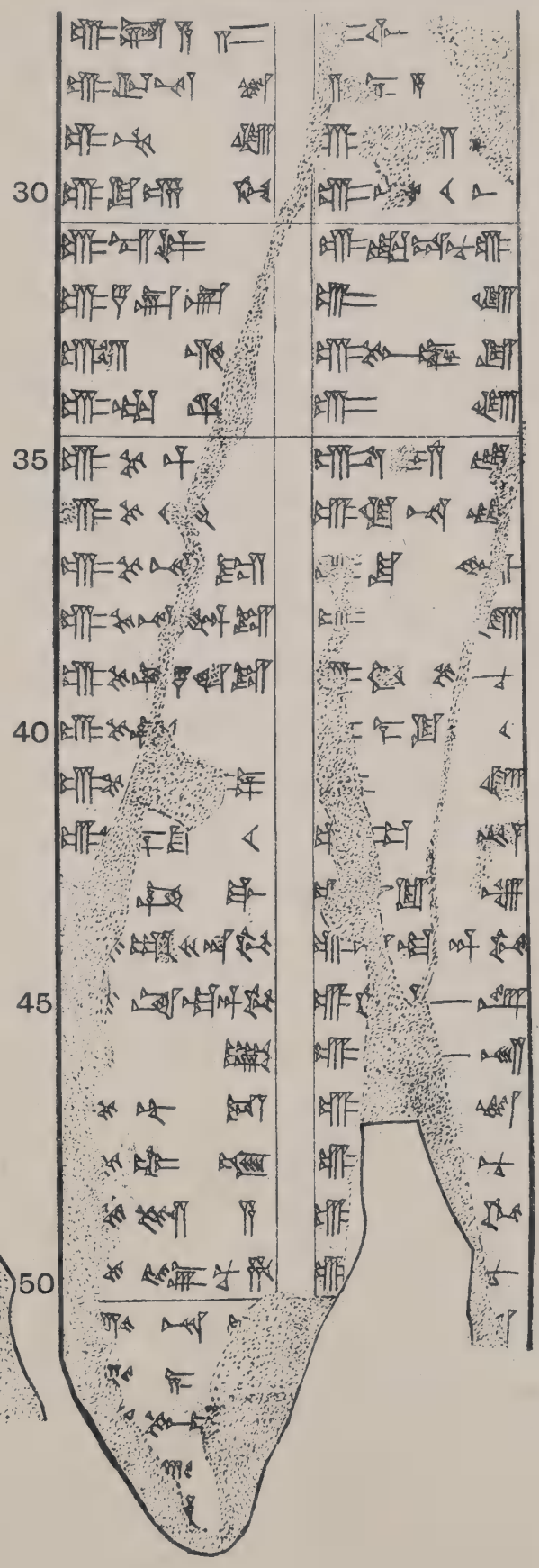

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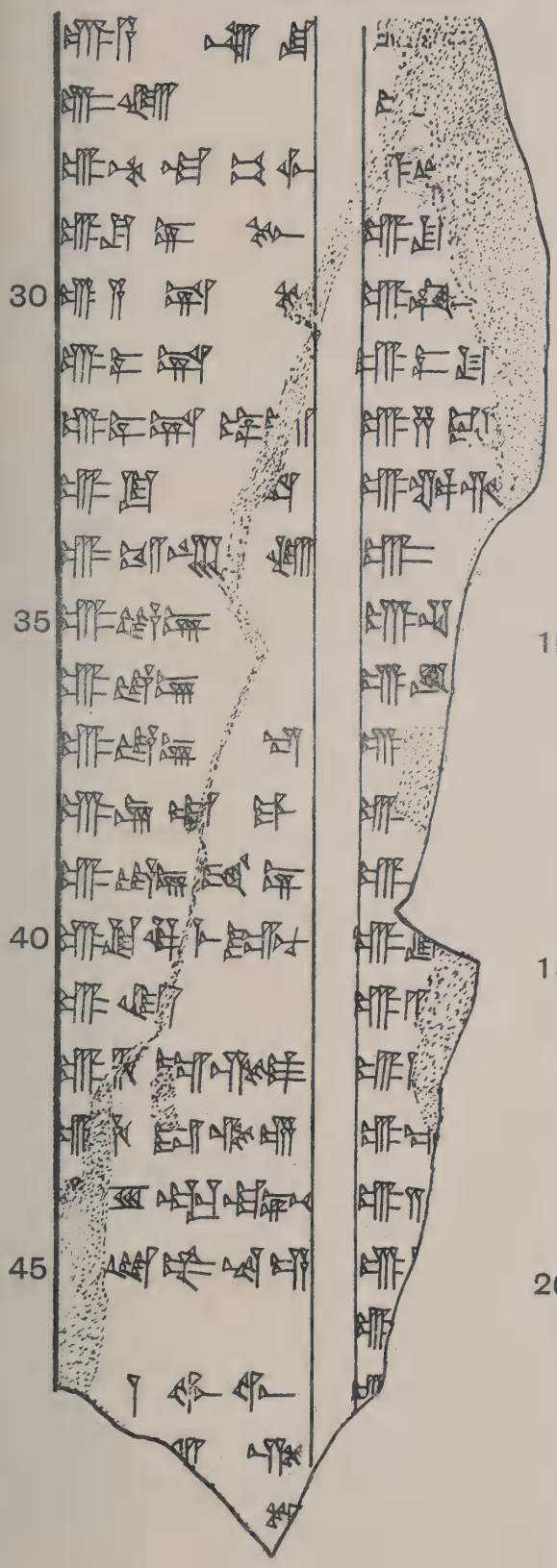

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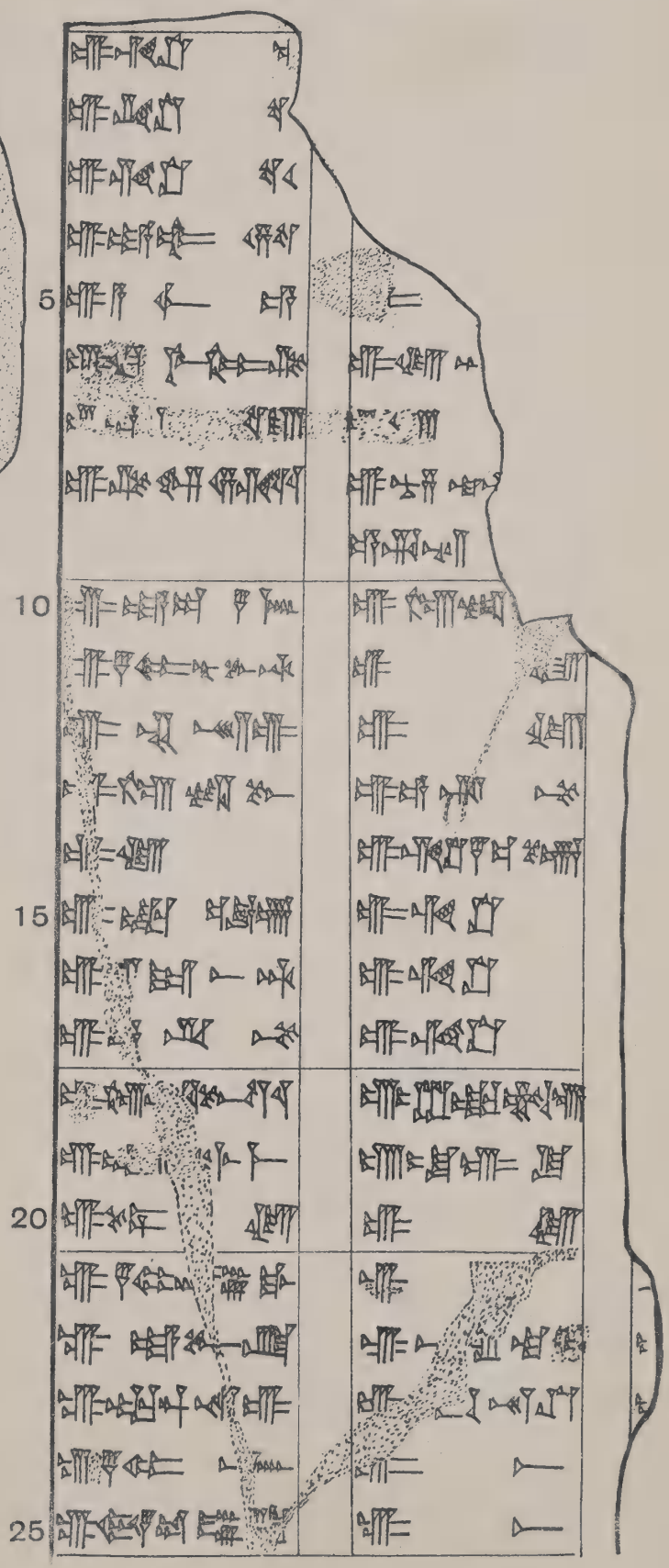

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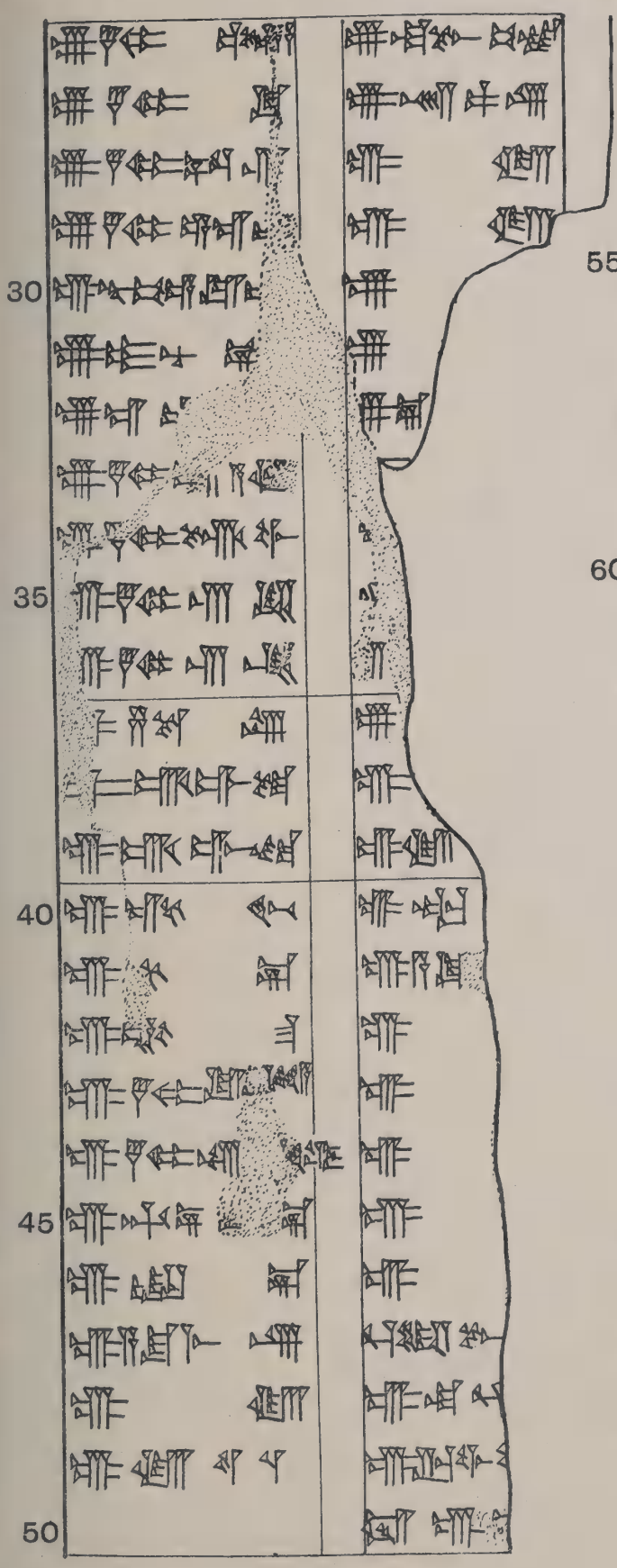

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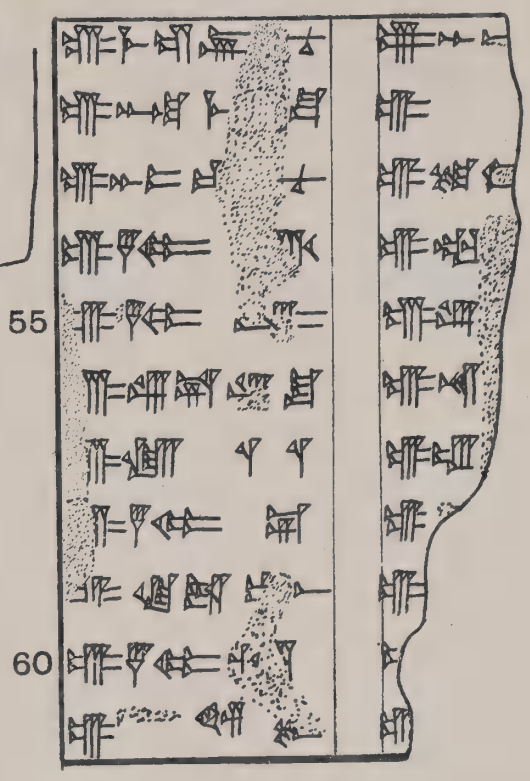

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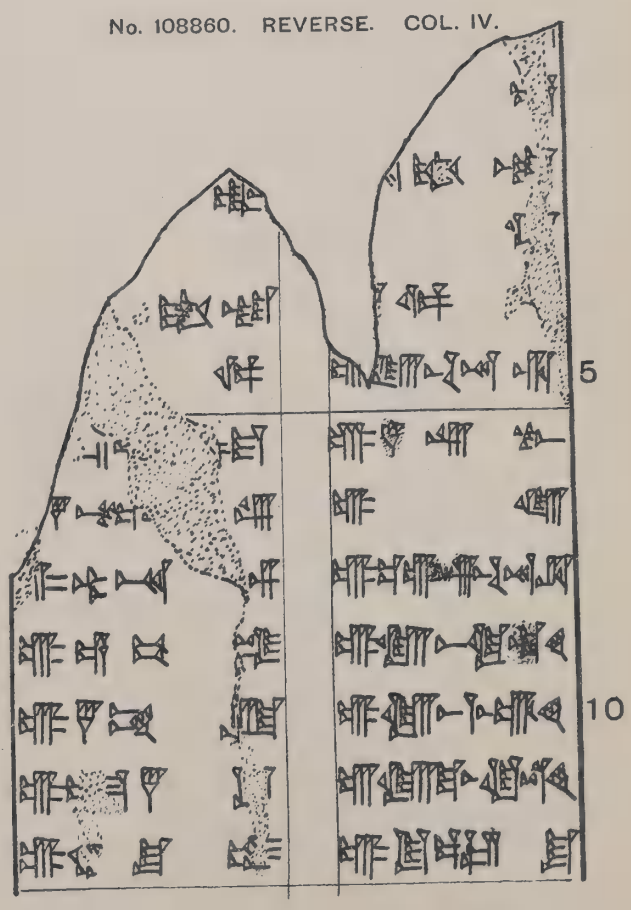

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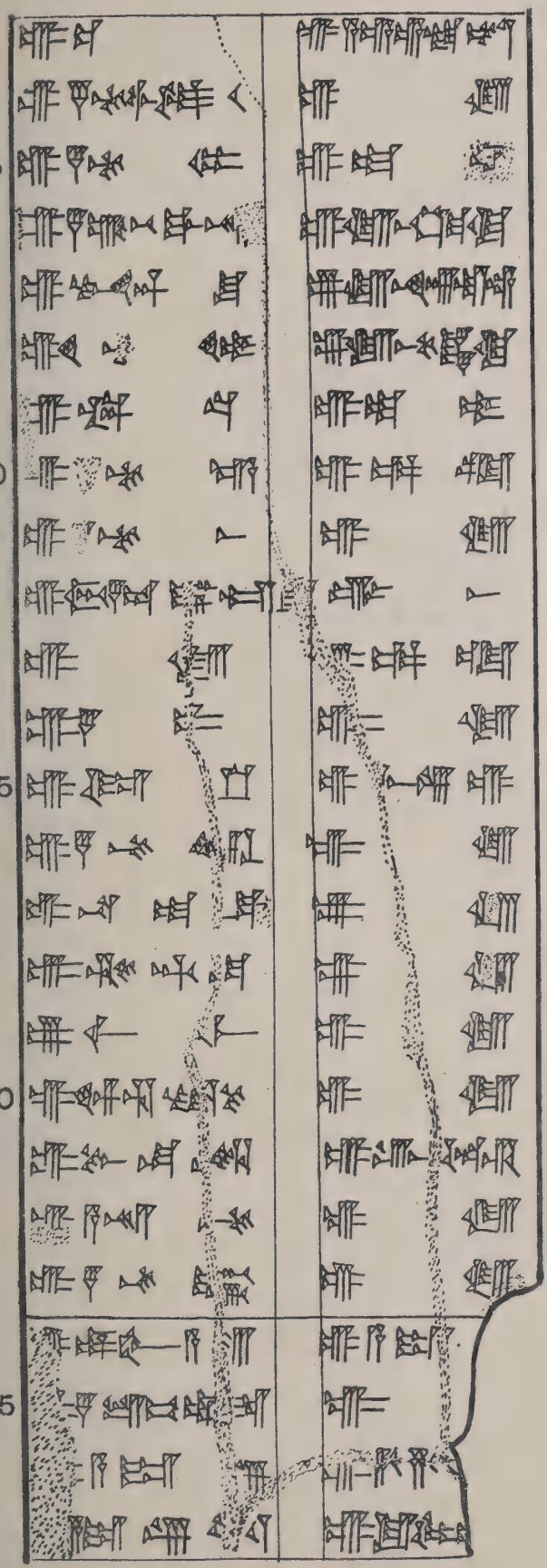

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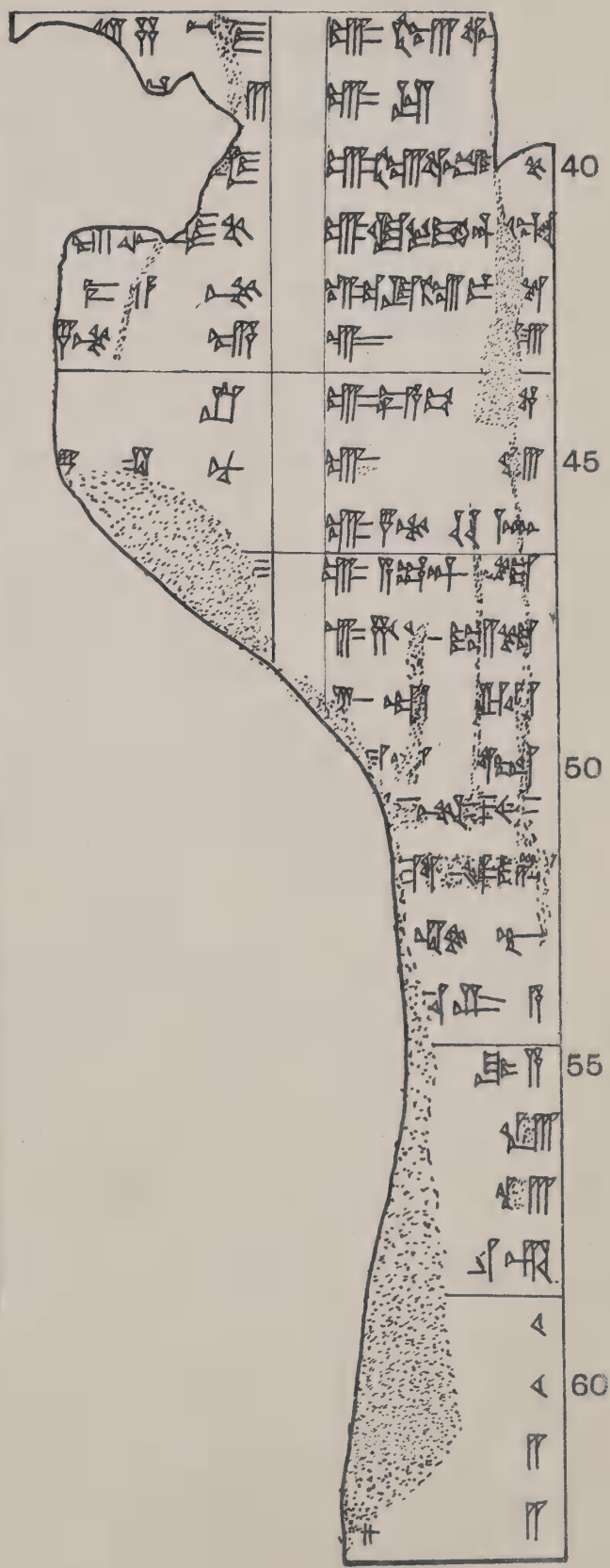

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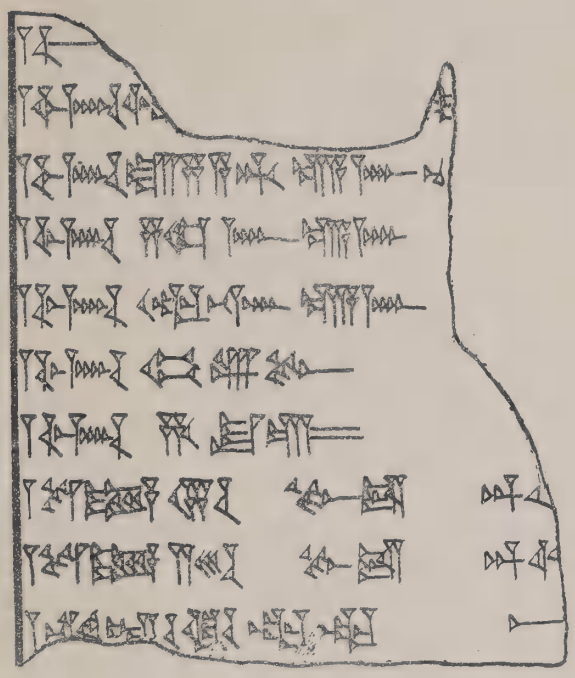
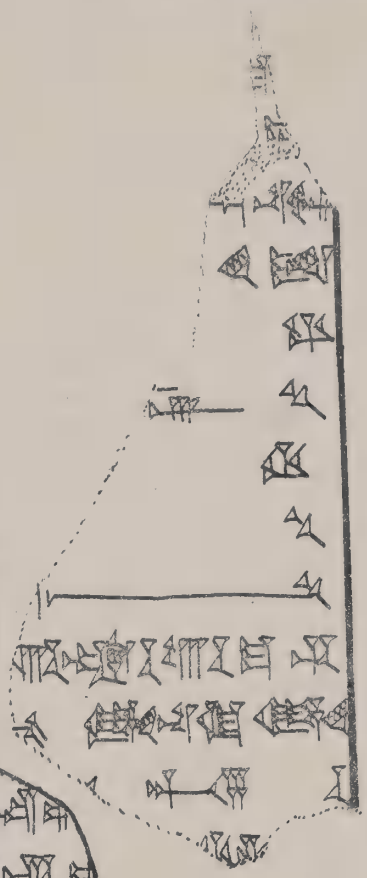
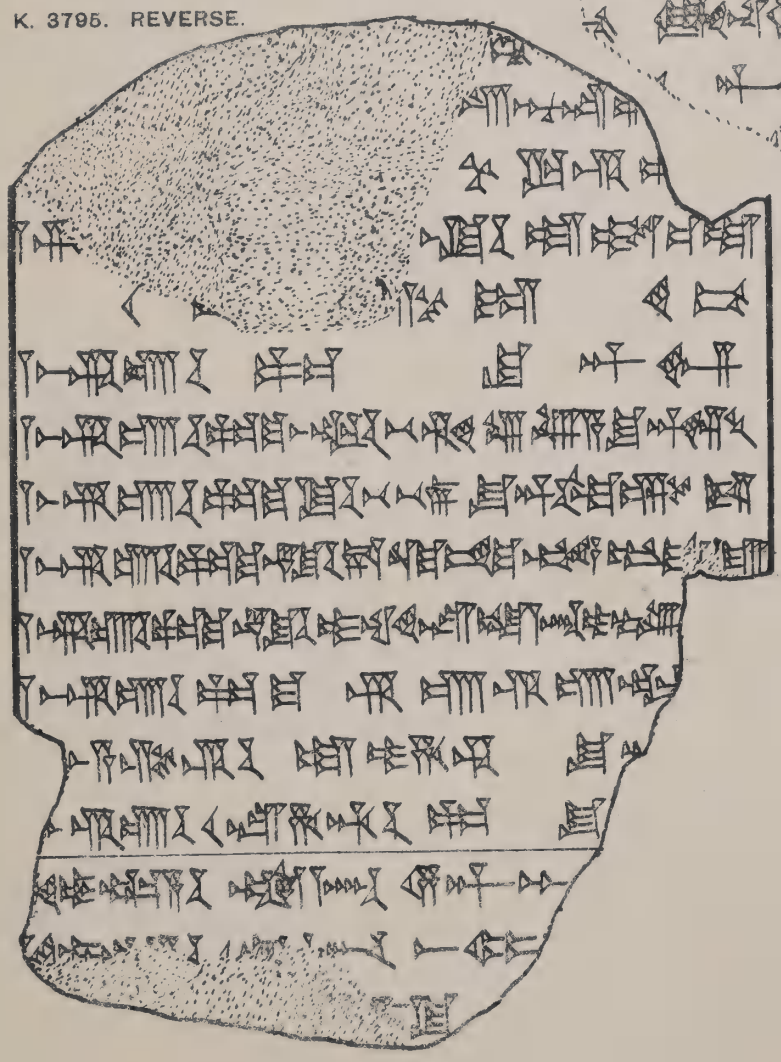


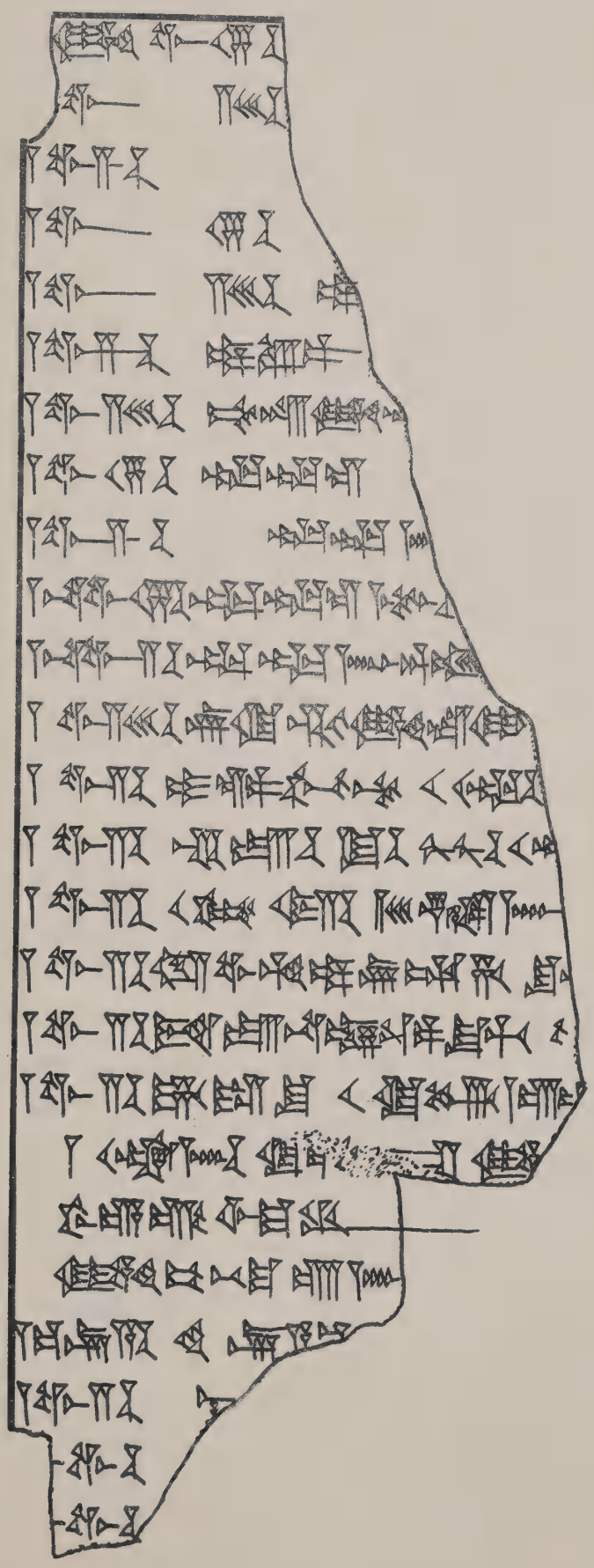
K. 3795. OBVERSE.



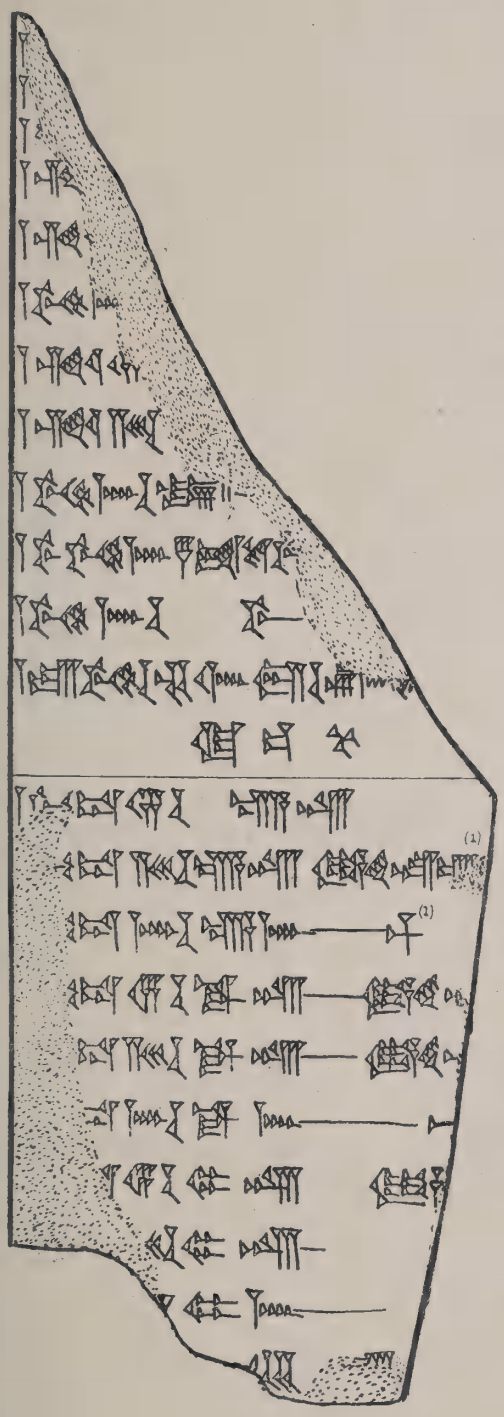
K. 3795. REVERSE.



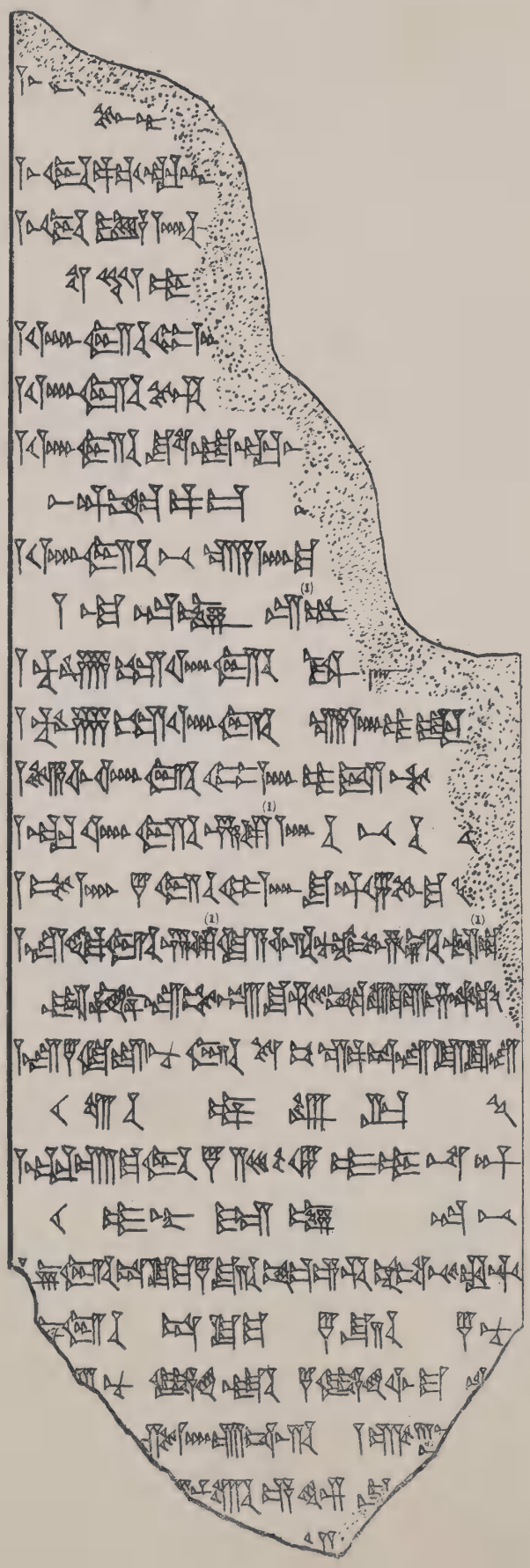
K. 4080 + 5552.



K. 4014. OBVERSE.



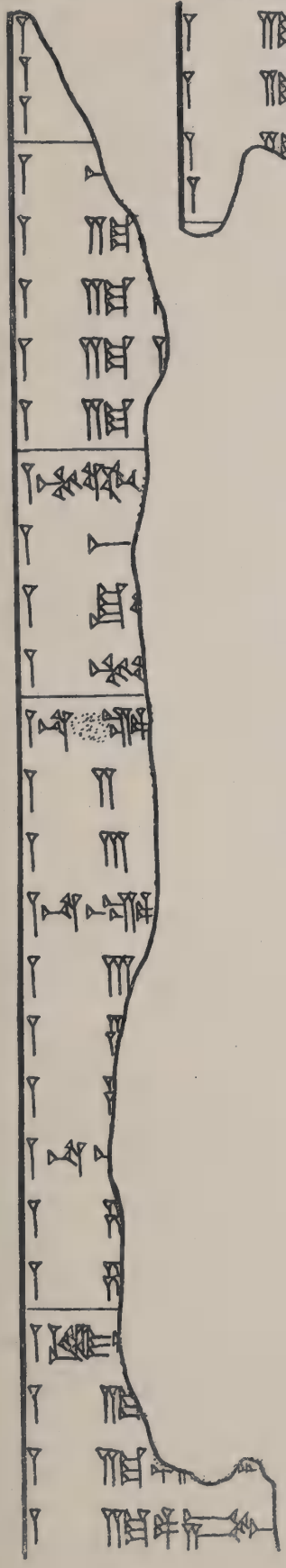
K. 4014. REVERSE.



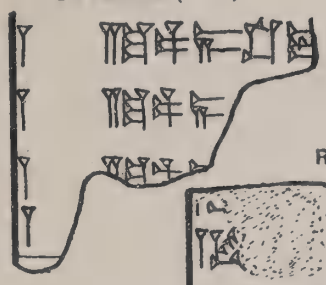
(1) Sic.

K. 4067.

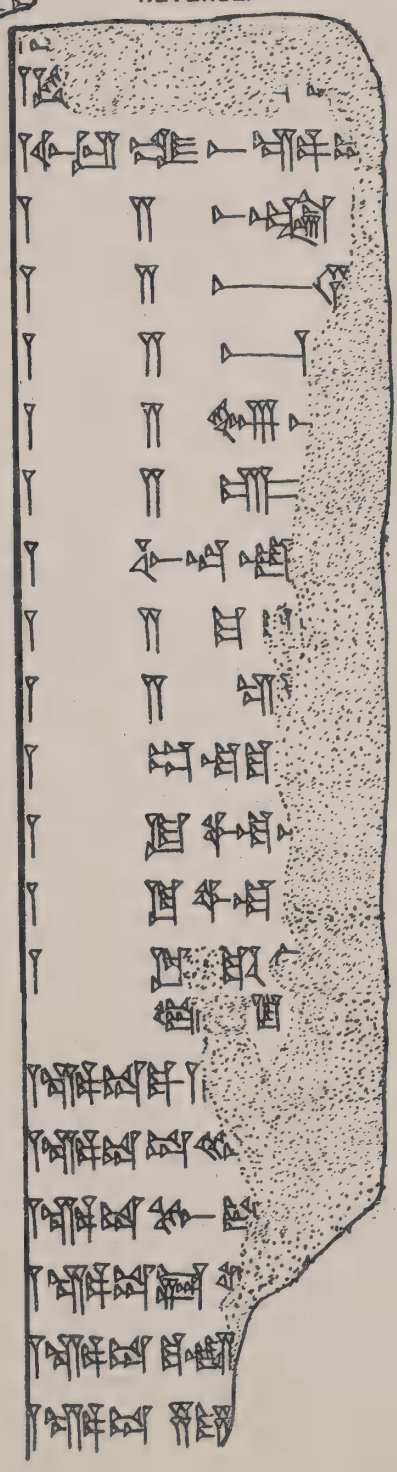
OBVERSE.



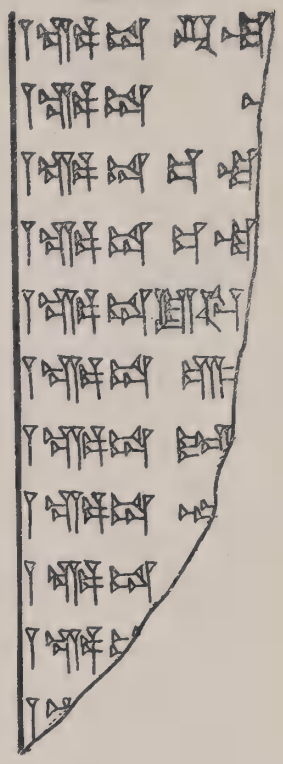
OBVERSE (*contd.*).



REVERSE.

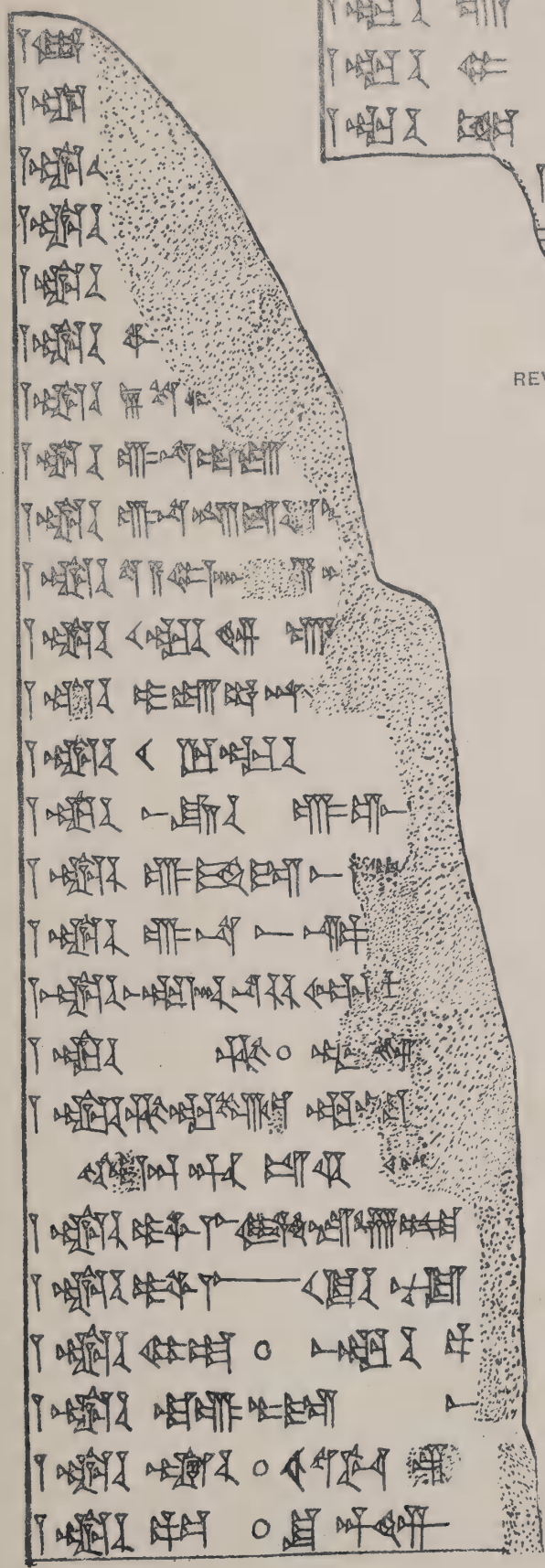


REVERSE.

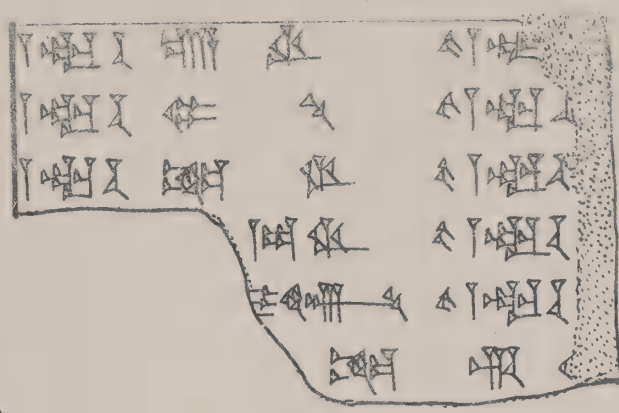


K. 2949.

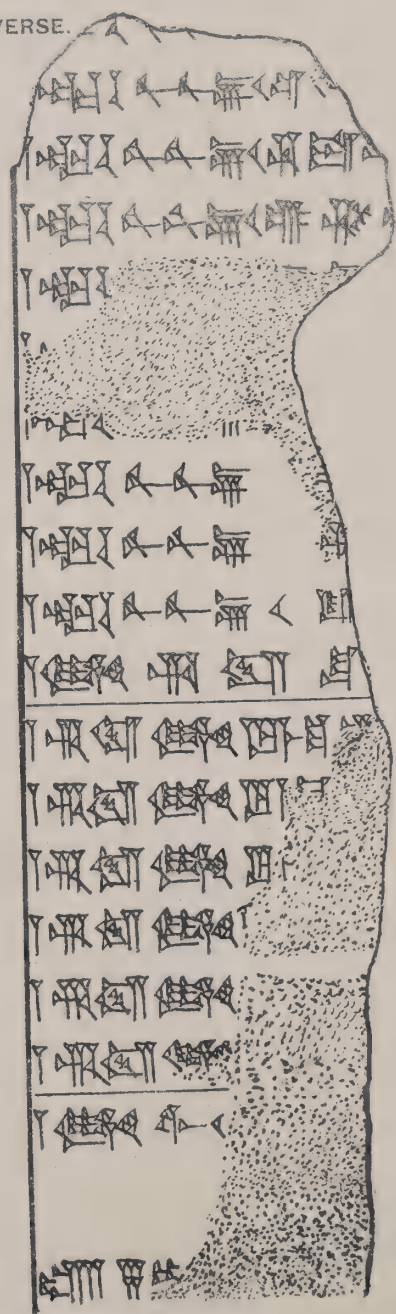
OBVERSE.



OBVERSE (*contd.*).



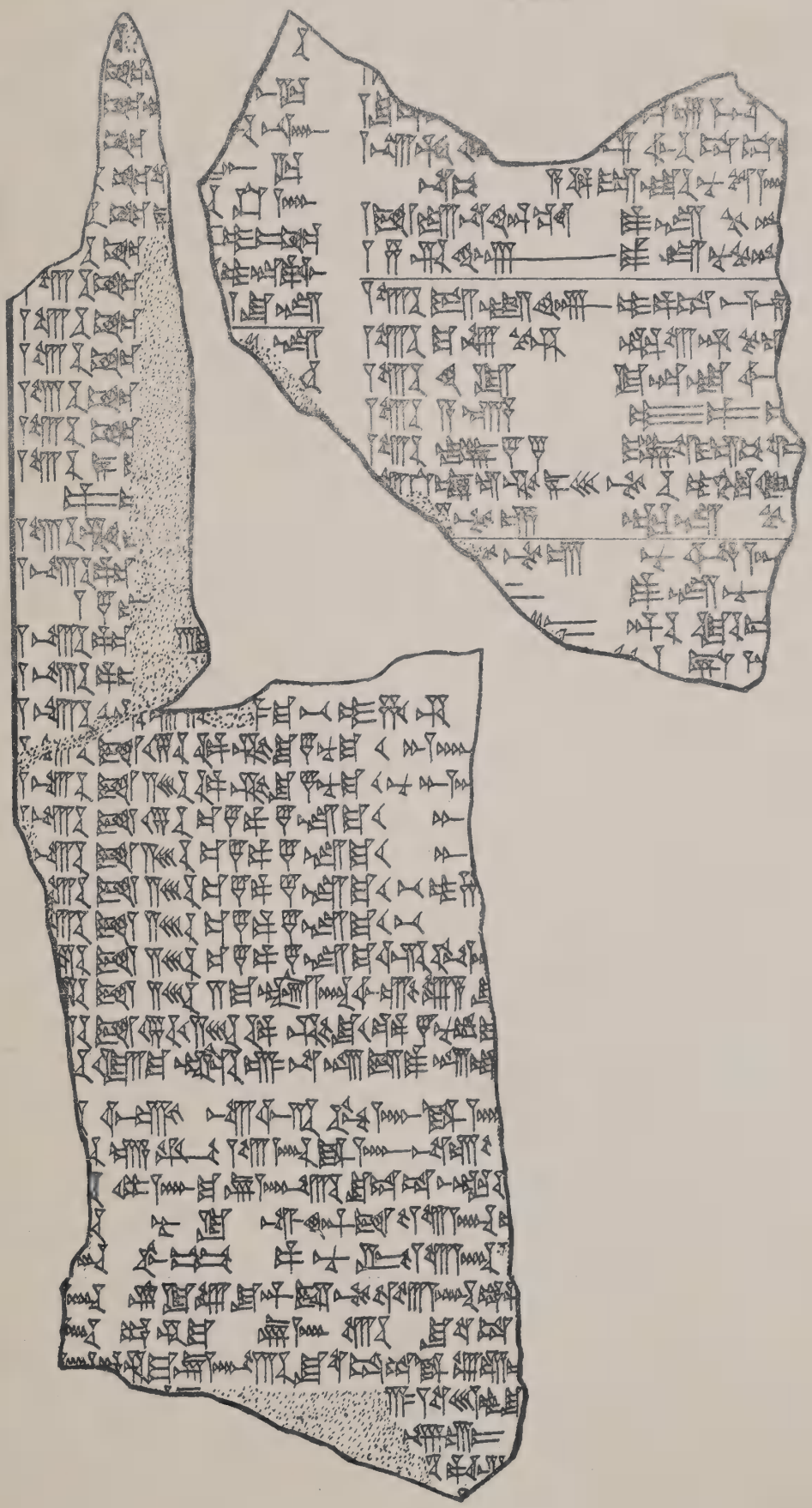
REVERSE.



7 lines Colophon d.

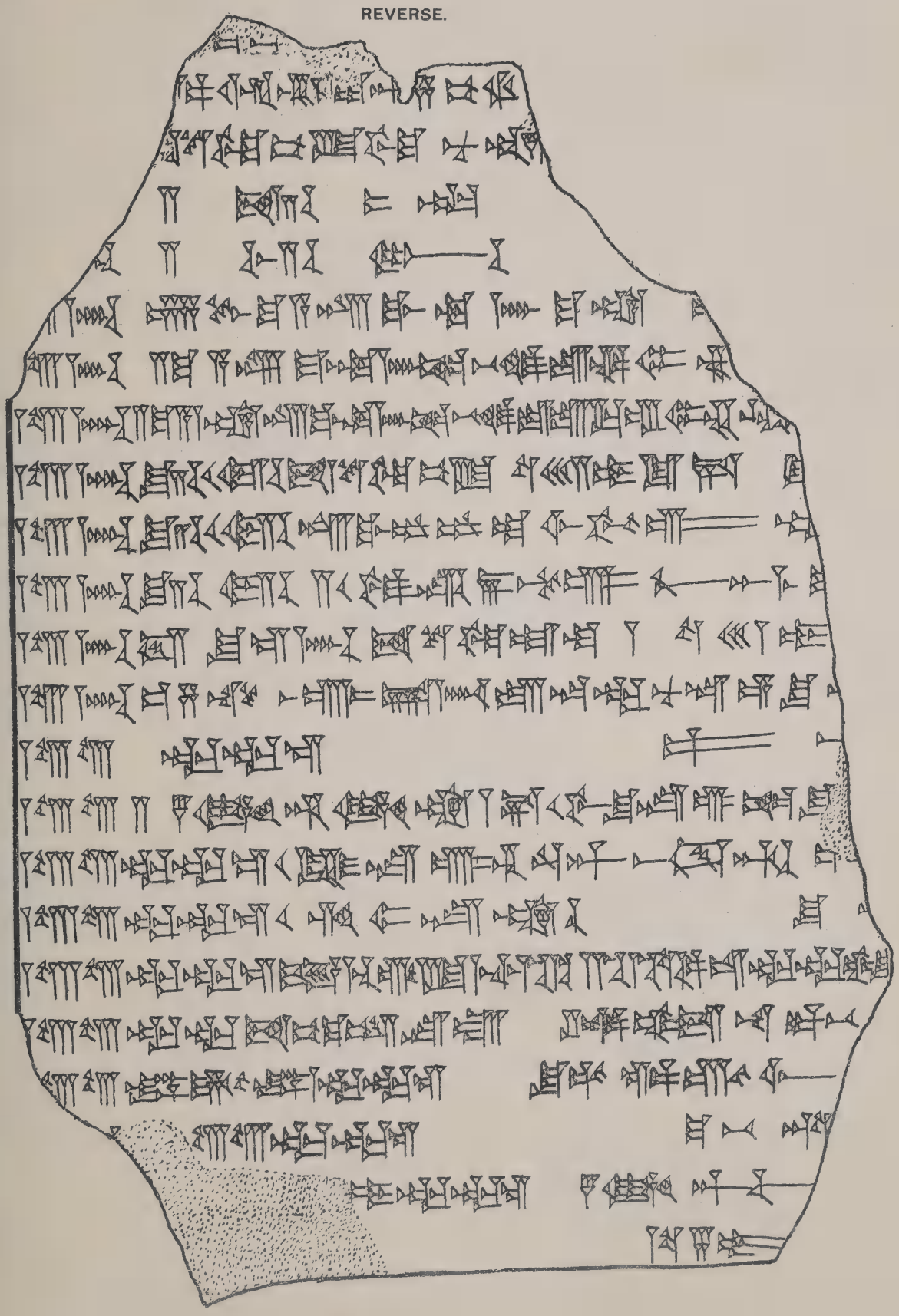
K. 6214.

K. 3693 + 6290 + Rm. 102.



K. 3693 + 6290 + Rm. 102.

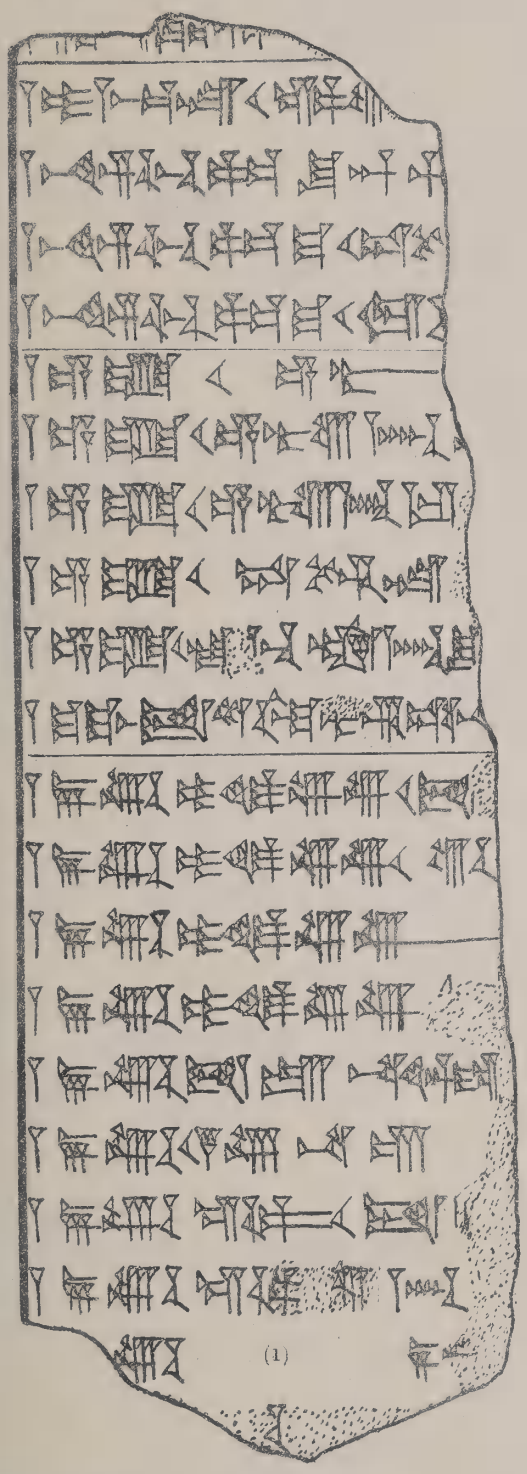
REVERSE.



K. 2952 + 3678. REVERSE.

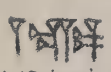
K. 2952. + 3678. OBVERSE.

K. 3743. REVERSE (?)

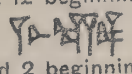


(1)

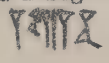
Obverse (?) 4 lines beginning



and 12 beginning

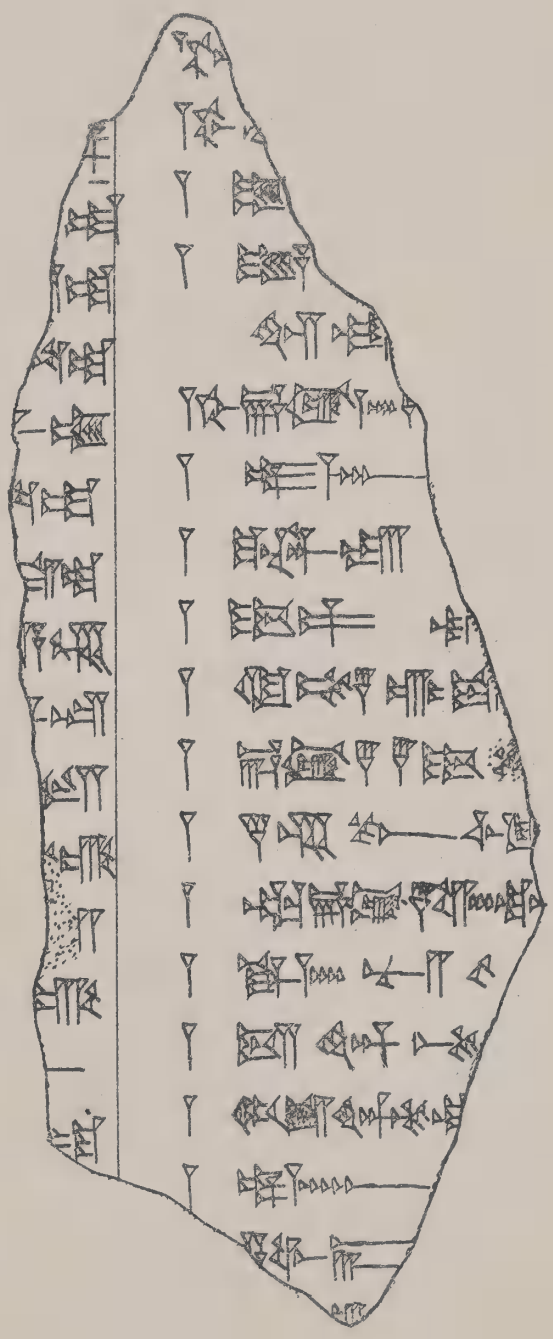


and 2 beginning

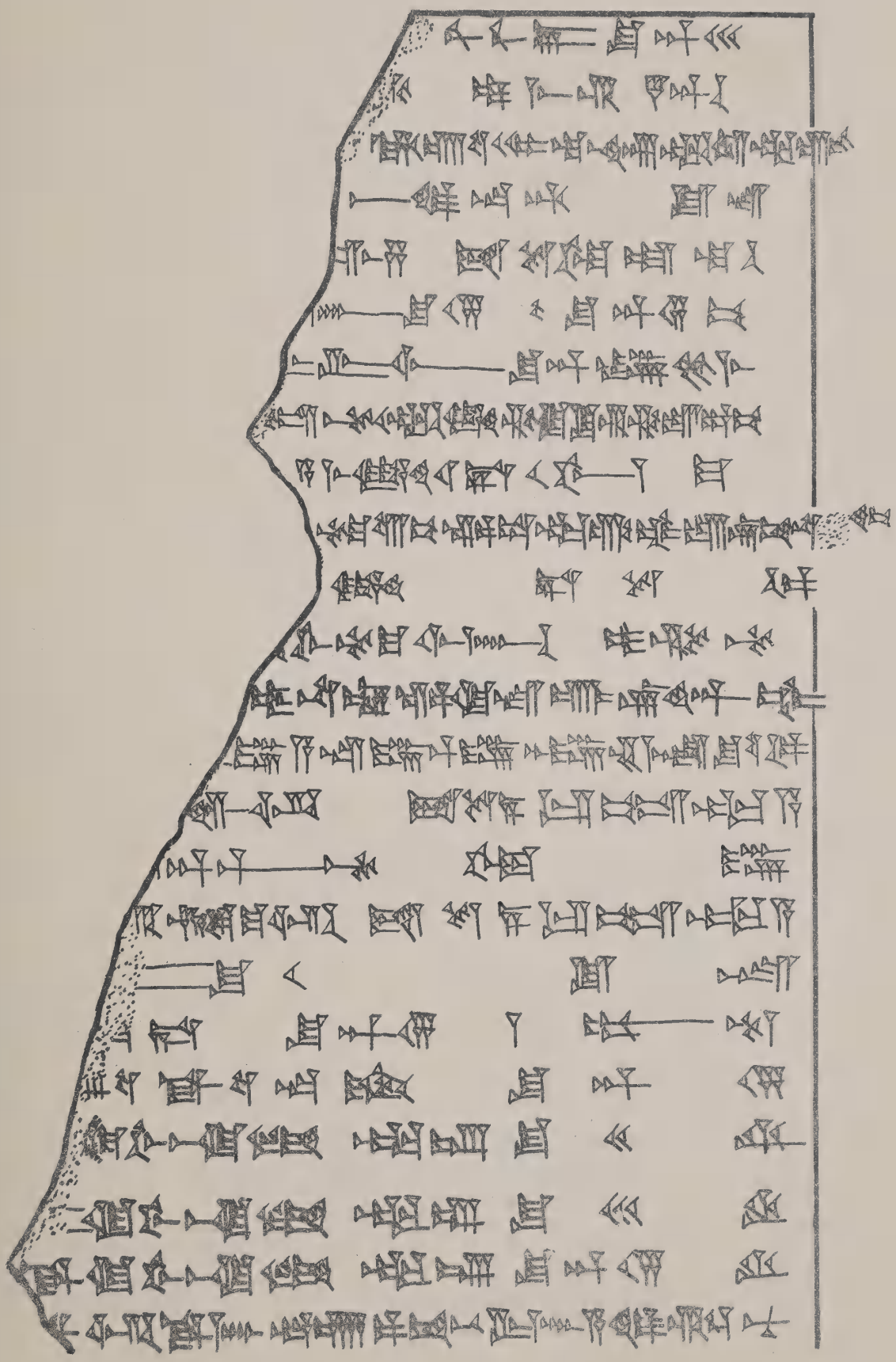


(1) Uninscribed.

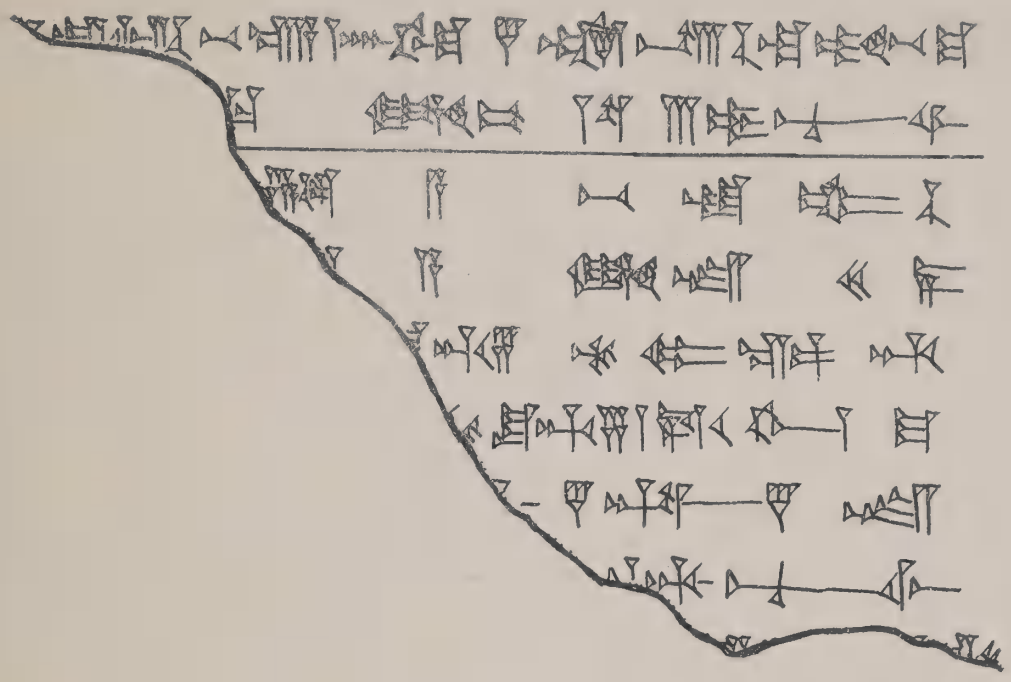
K. 8627.



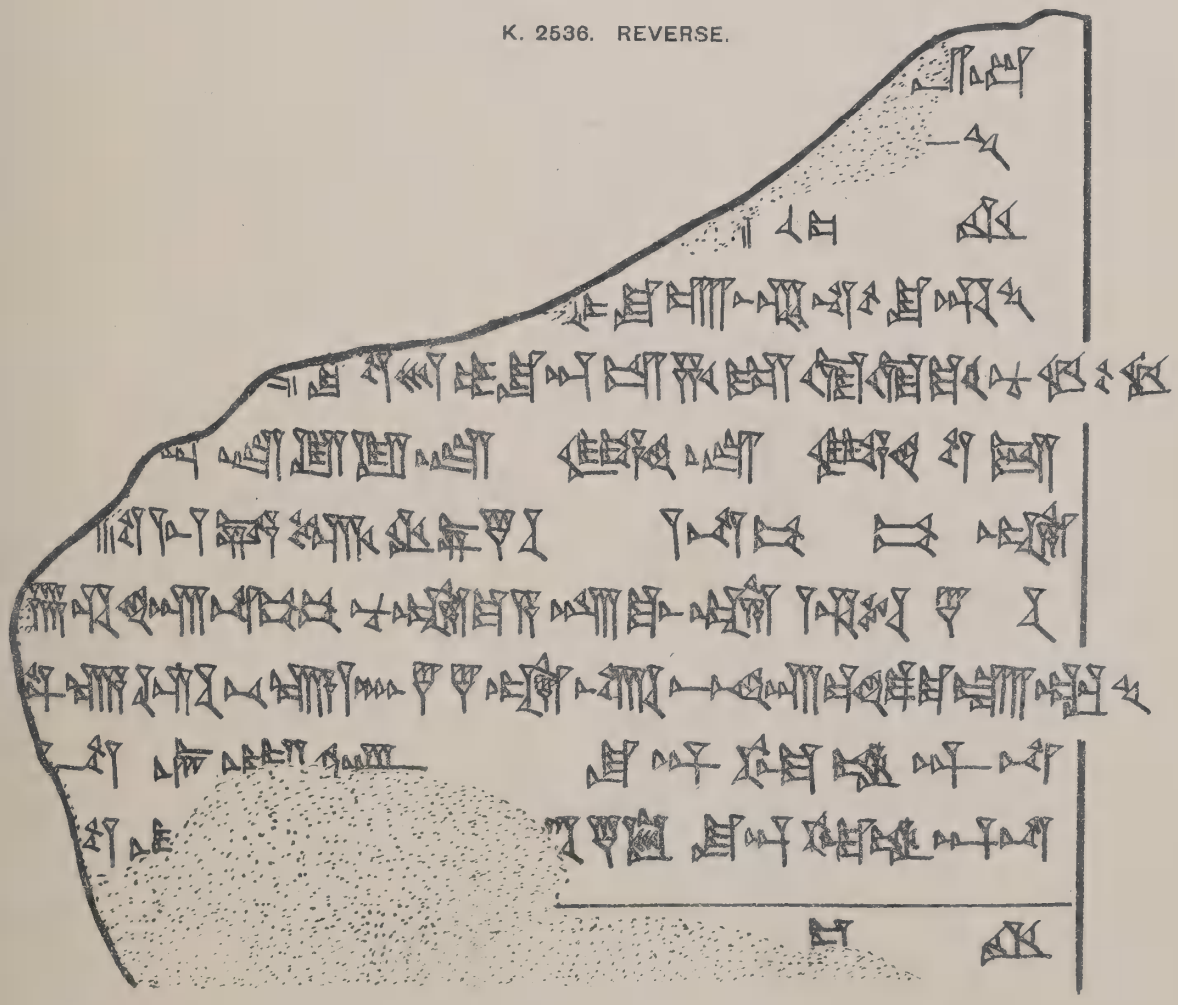
K. 2536.



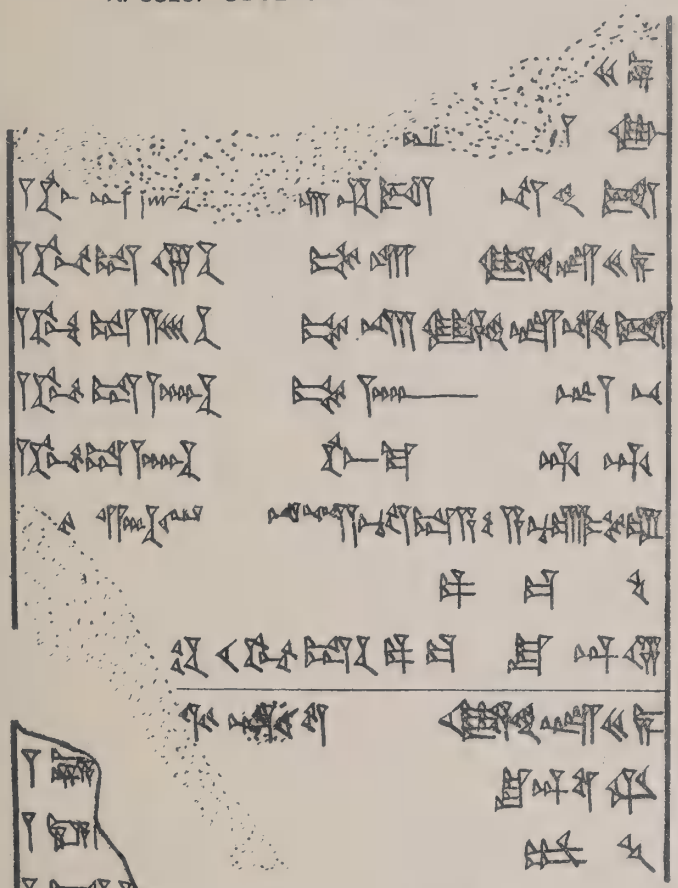
K. 2536 (*contd.*).



K. 2536. REVERSE.

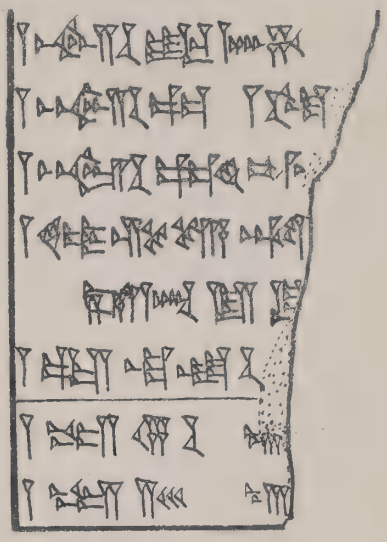


K. 3826. OBVERSE. COL. I.

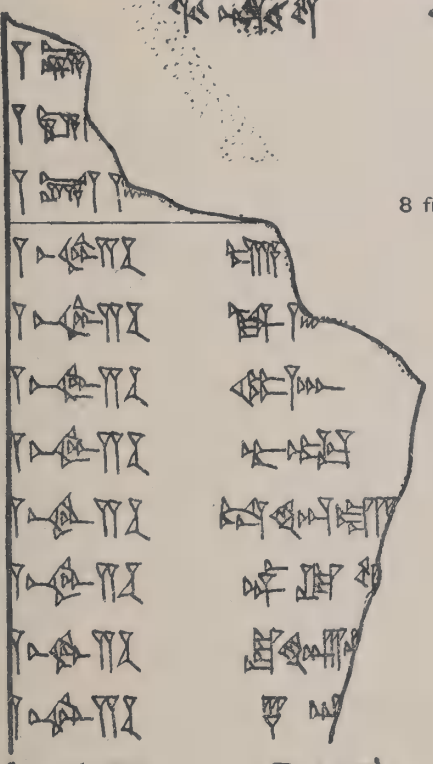


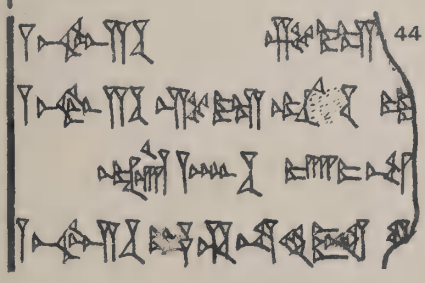
8 fragmentary lines.

K. 3826. REVERSE.
COL. IV. +

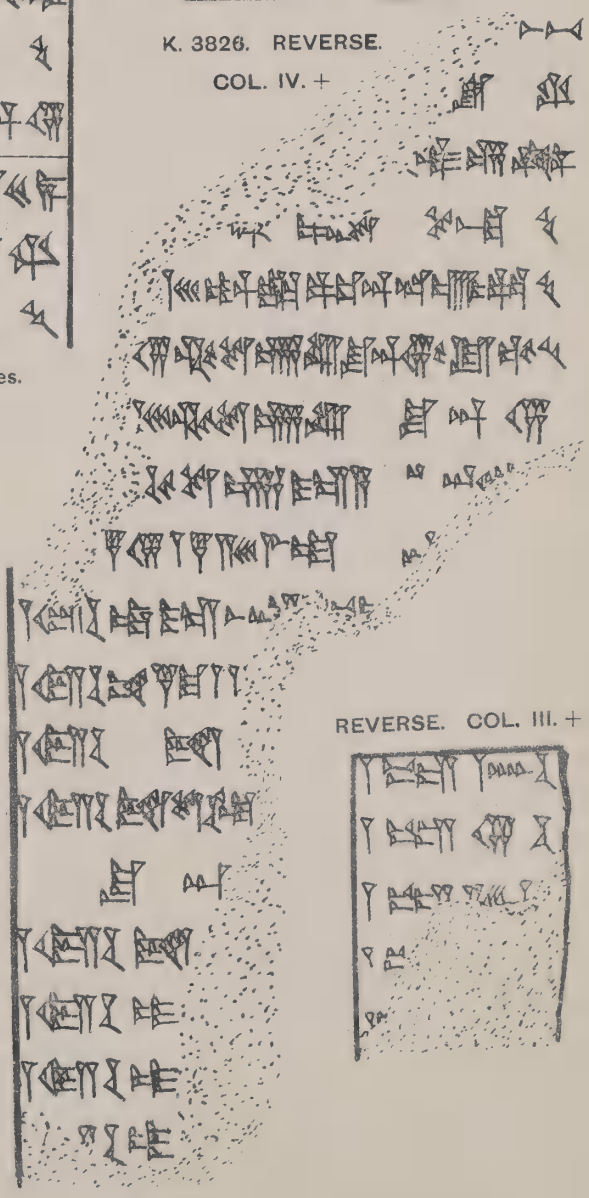


K. 3826. OBVERSE. COL. II.



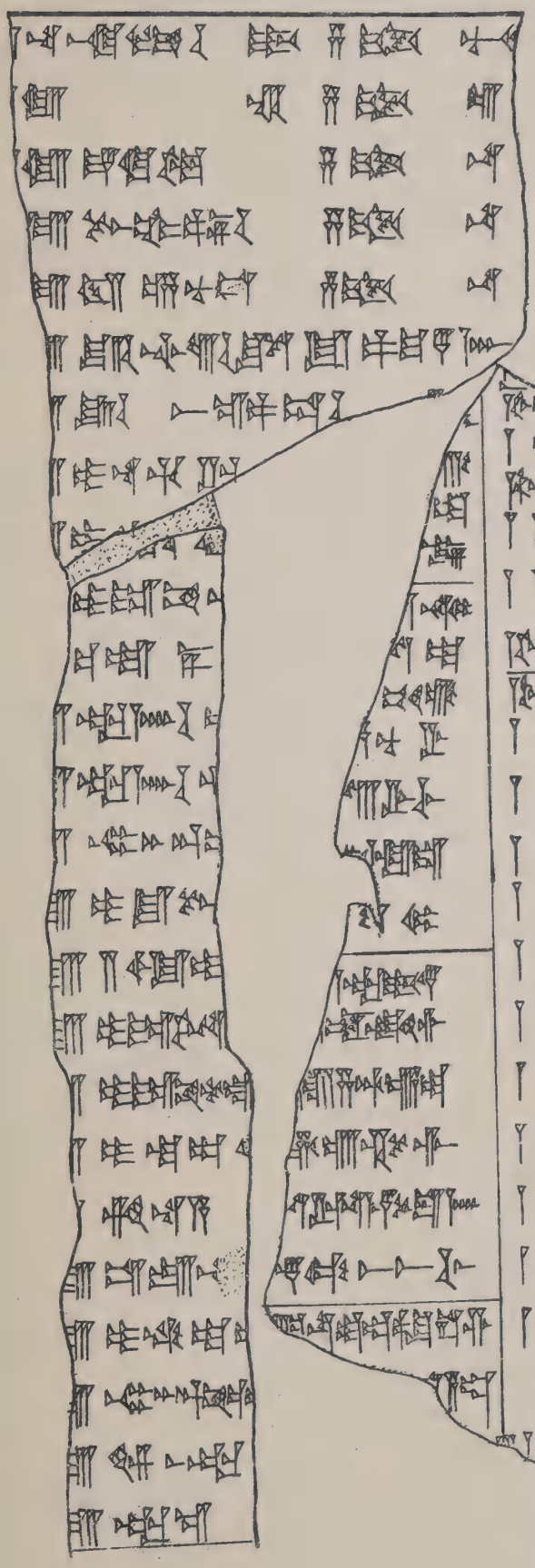


44 BI.

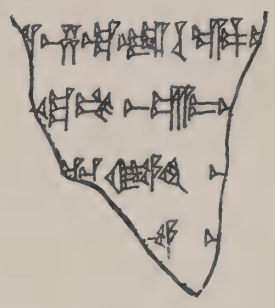


REVERSE. COL. III. +

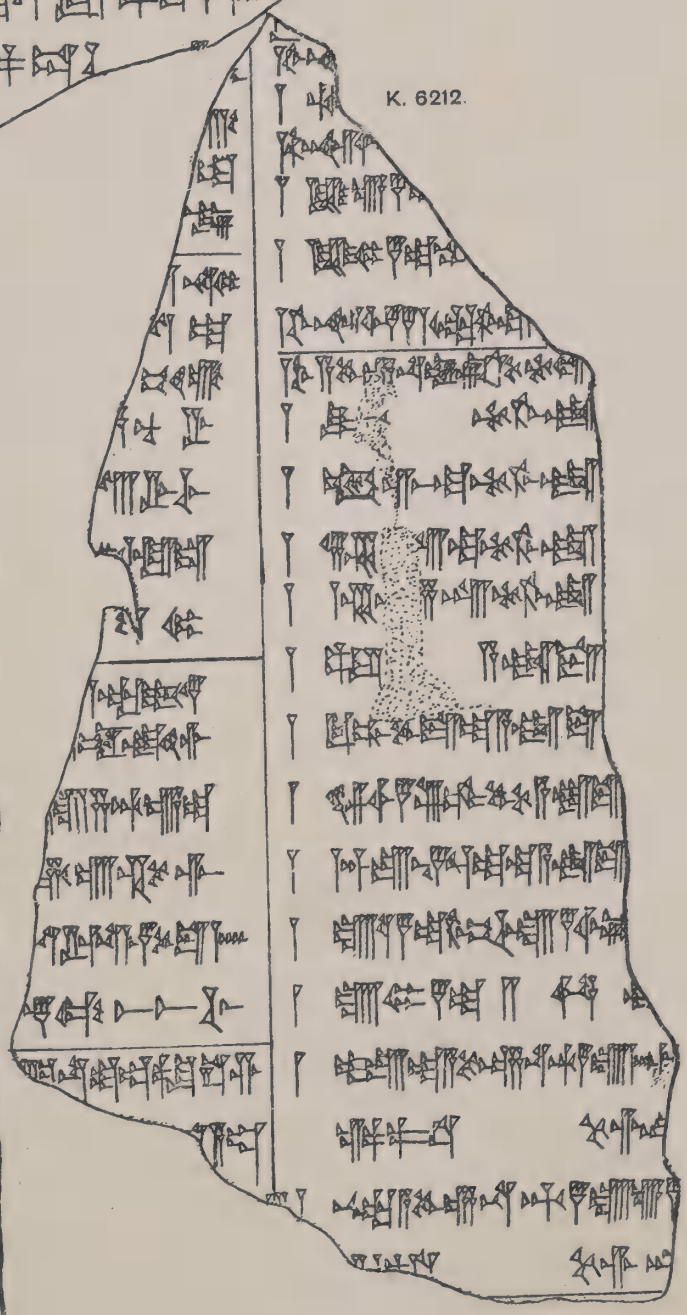
K. 9537 + K. 11837.



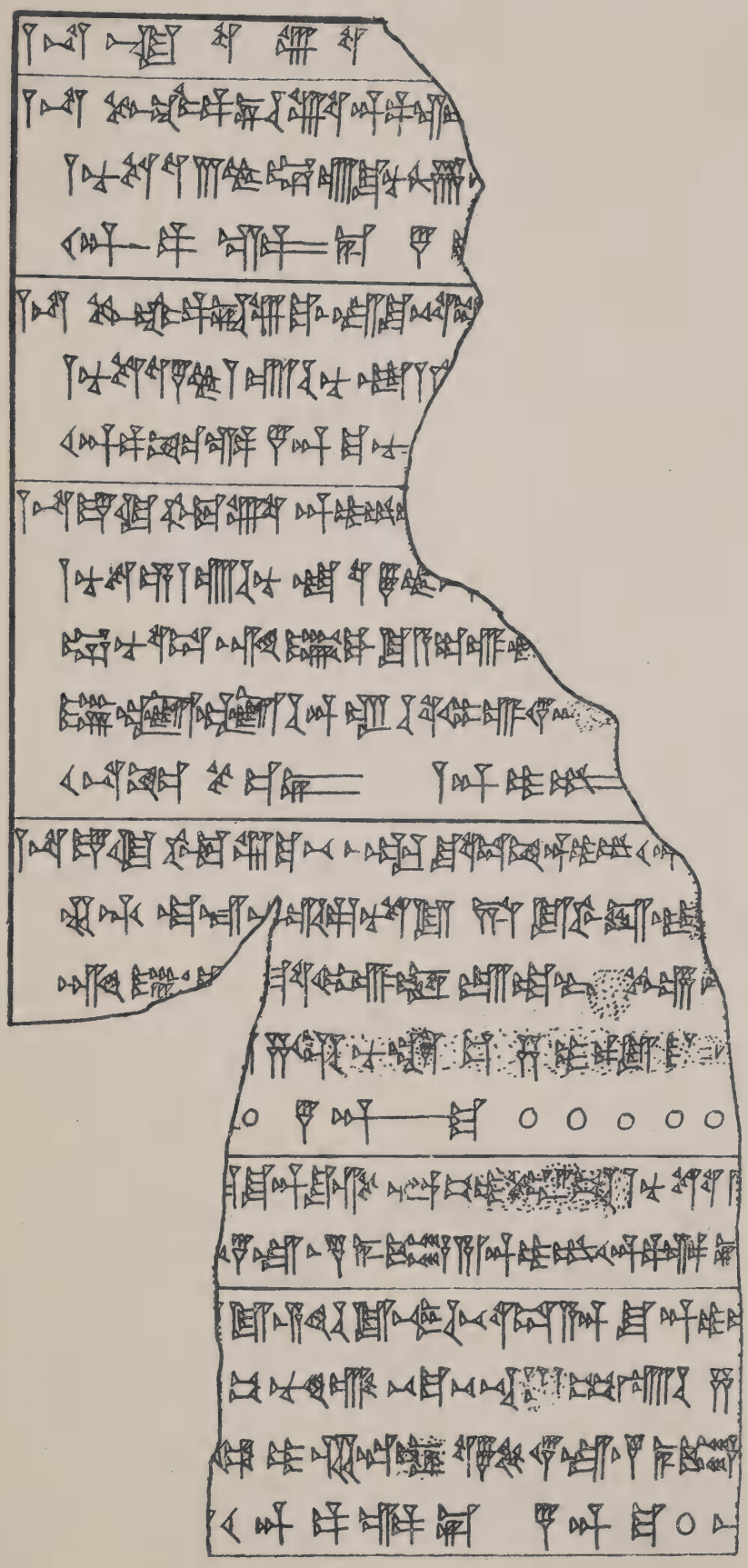
K. 9537 + K. 11837.



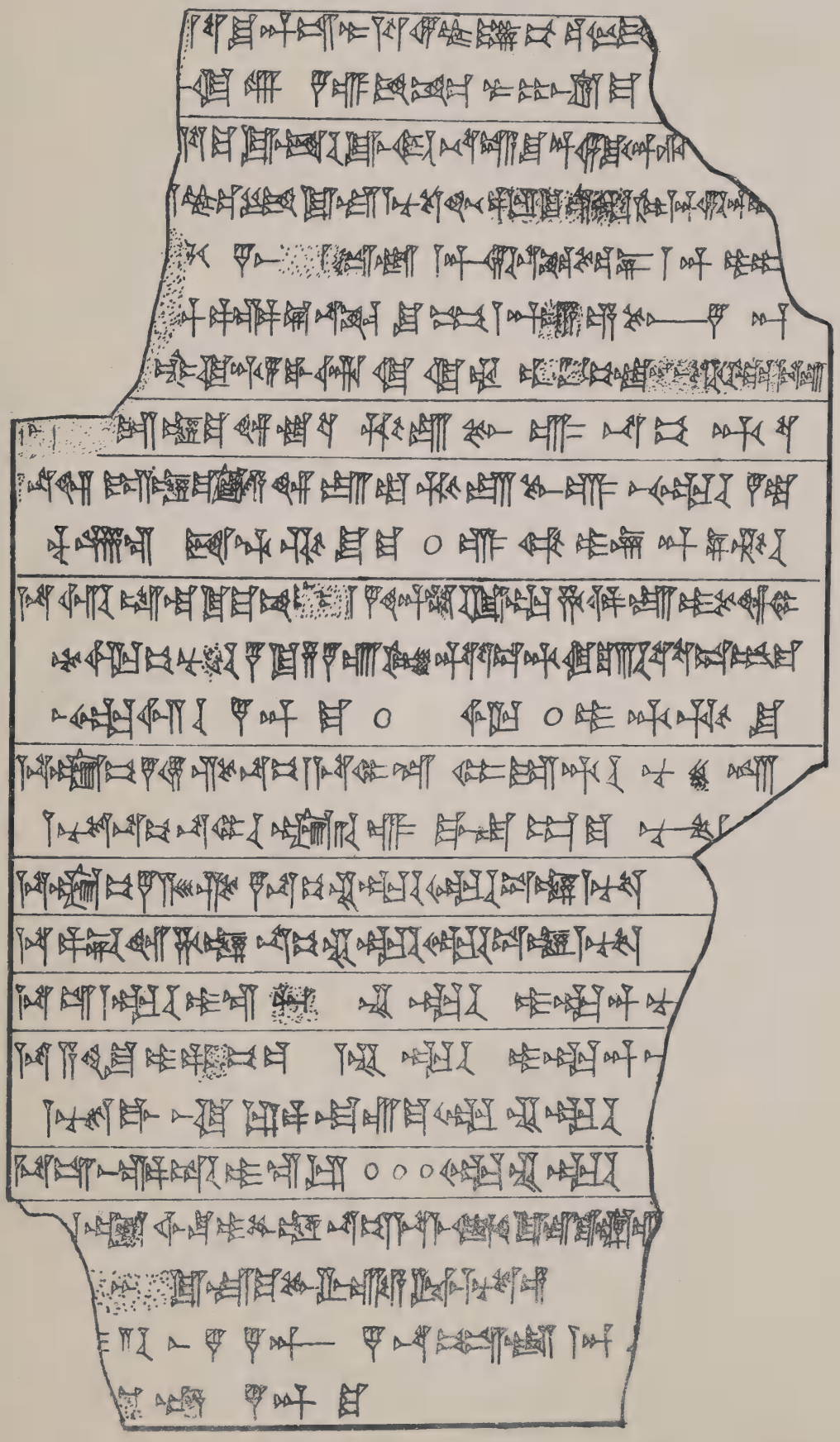
K. 6212.



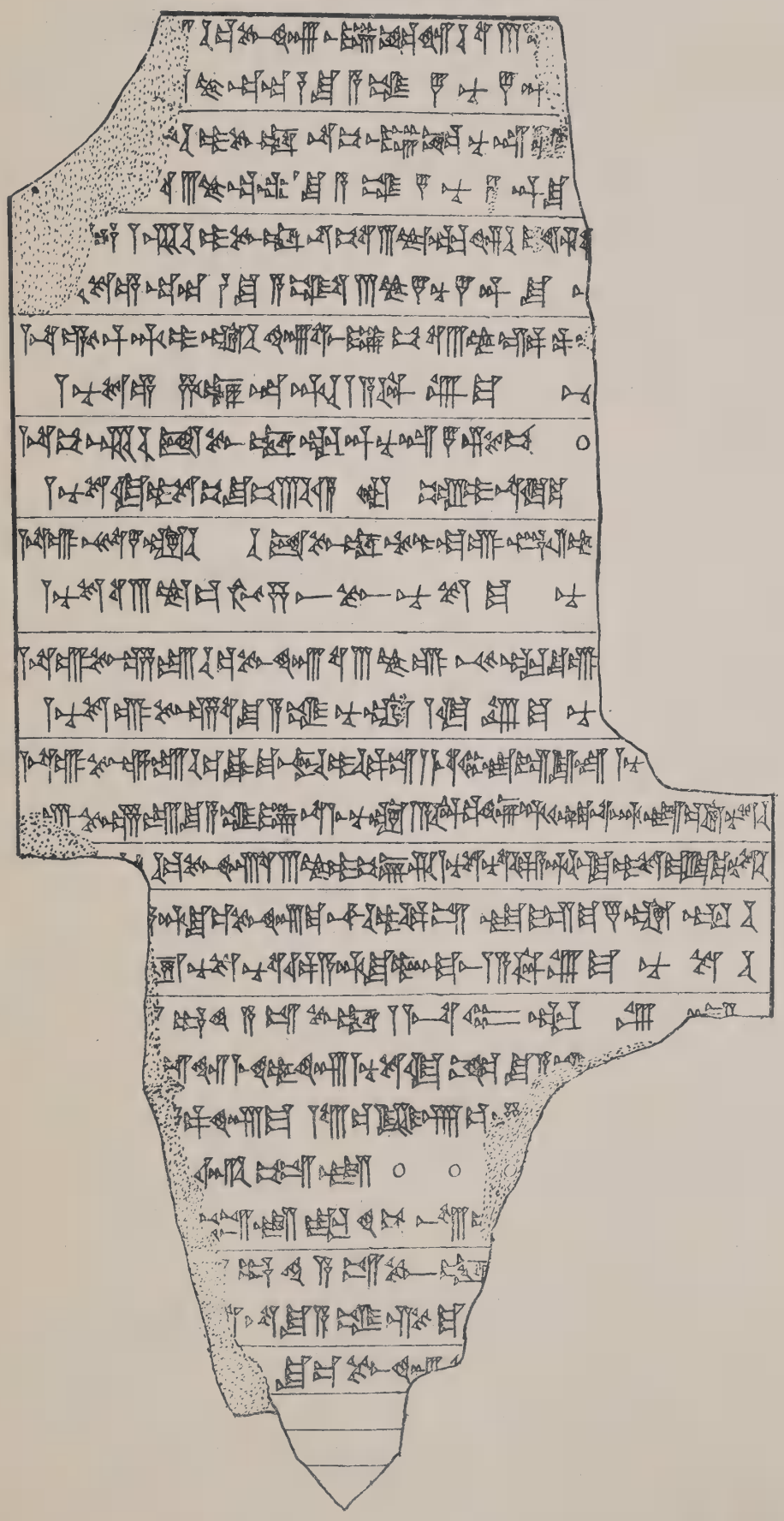
K. 2464 + K. 2372. Sheet 1.



K. 2464 + K. 2372. Sheet 2.

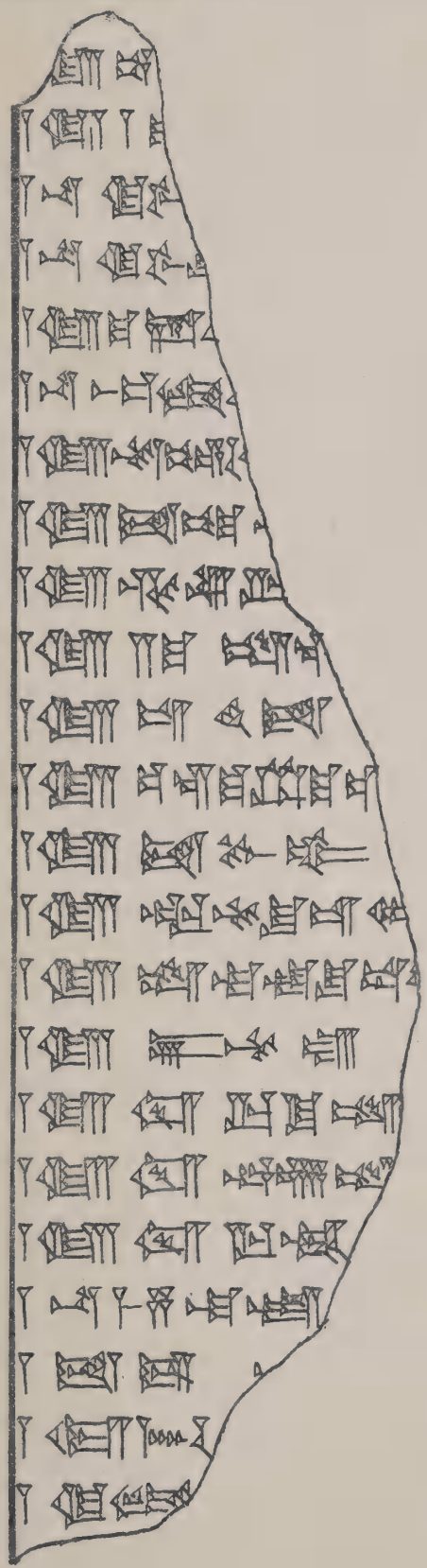


K. 2464 + K. 2372. REVERSE. Sheet 3.

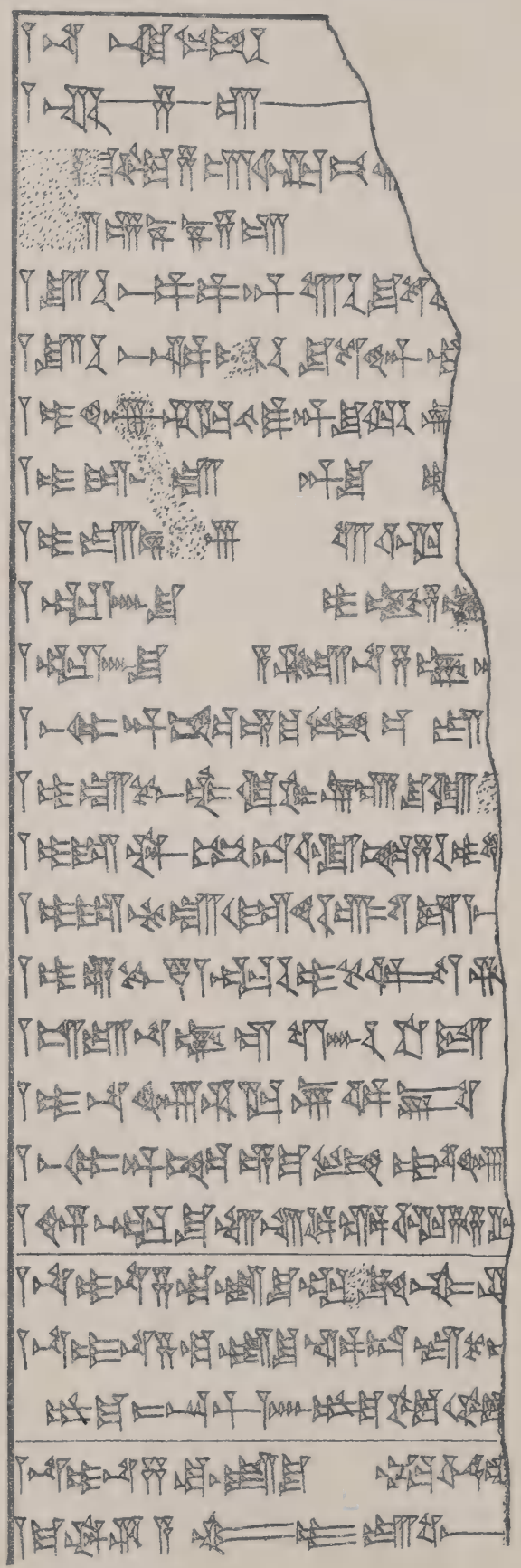


8 lines Colophon d.

K. 8335. OBVERSE ONLY.

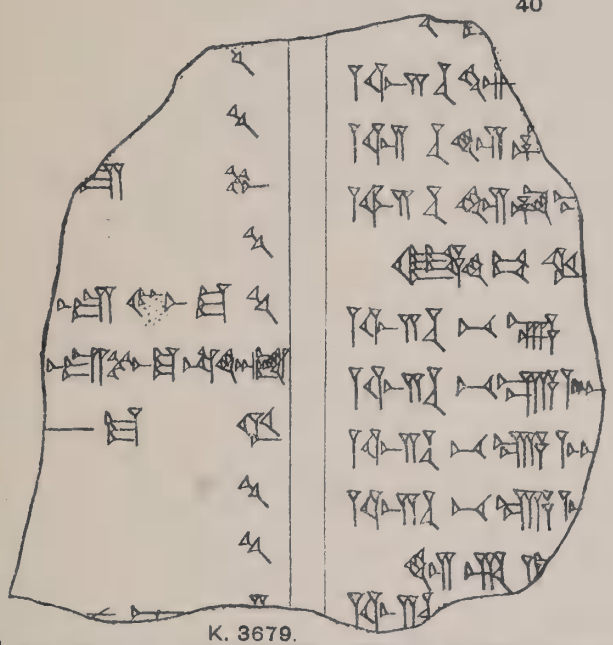


K. 9739. OBVERSE.



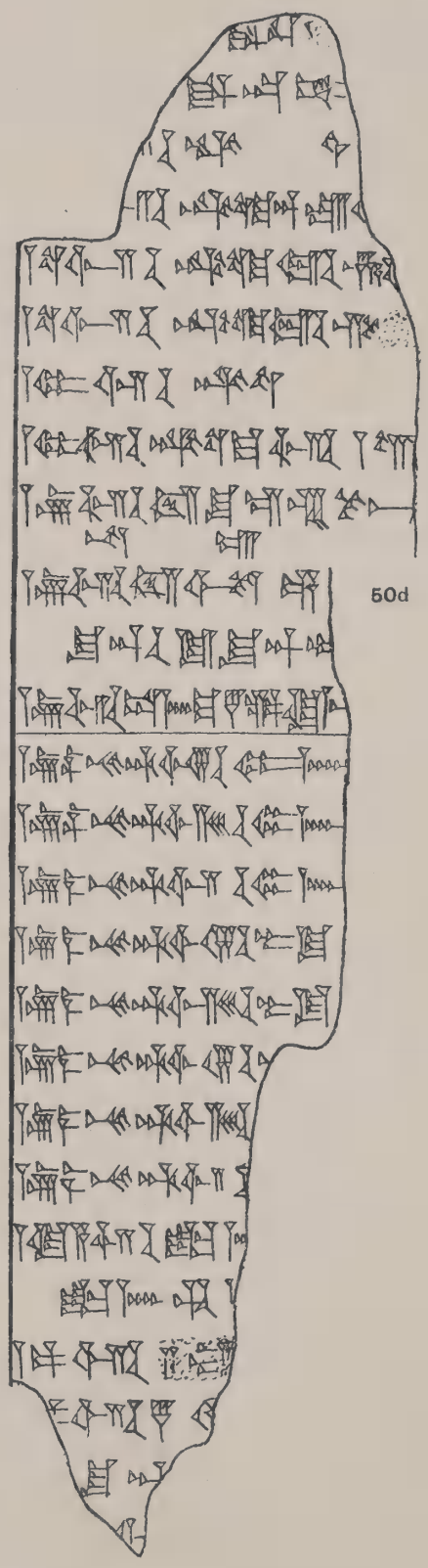
K. 6737.

40



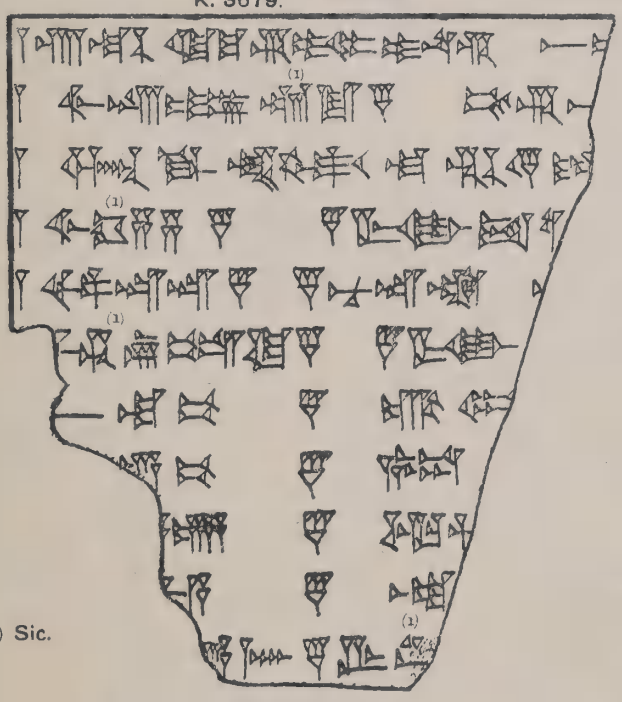
K. 7099.

50b



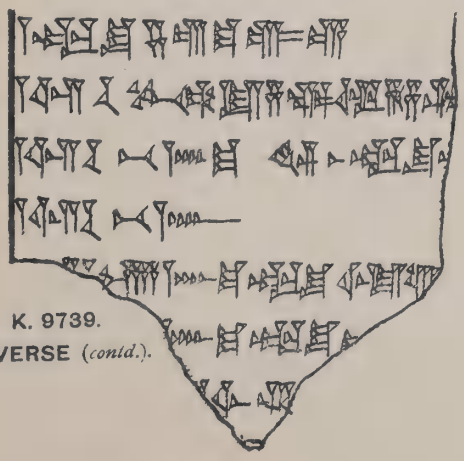
40a

K. 3679.



50d

(1) Sic.



K. 9739.
OBVERSE (*contd.*).

Reverse traces of first sign of 8 lines.

1383

12709

F
PJ
3711
B7
1896
V.37

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